



We Look Forward to Seeing you Next Month in Chicago!

By: Heinz Briske, Esq. (Illinois Forum Leader), Kevin Huck, Esq. and Corey Schultz, Esq.



On behalf of the **Illinois Forum**, we would like to welcome you to Chicago and to the **2009 Planning for the Generations Symposium** August 5 - 7. You will be among the approximately 44.2 million people who visit this grand city this year.

For those of you who don't know, the Illinois Forum is a group of sixty-plus Illinois estate planning attorneys who meet quarterly to discuss issues unique to the estate planning practice in the state of Illinois. We also provide educational programs on topics relevant to Illinois attorneys and develop practice forms to be used by members. Finally, we selflessly share information about challenges and successes that we experience in our respective practices through an e-mail listserv. It gives us all the opportunity to be members of a state-wide "estate planning and probate and trust administration law firm."

Chicago has much to be proud of. Originally inhabited by the Potawatomi Indians, Chicago was incorporated in 1837 with a population of less than 4,000 people; today Chicago has a population of 2.8 million. There is much to see and do in this beautiful city by the lake.

The railroads and the Illinois and Michigan Canal (which created connections from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River) made Chicago a preeminent commercial center. One of the greatest engineering feats of all time was accomplished when the flow of the Chicago River was reversed to prevent untreated sewage and industrial waste from flowing into Lake Michigan. Speaking of the Chicago River, one of the most educational and most interesting tours in Chicago is the **Architectural Boat Tour**. It is literally a boat tour on the Chicago River that highlights the architecture that has given the city of Chicago the reputation of being one of the most architecturally beautiful cities in the country.

In 1877, the Great Chicago fire destroyed one-third of the city. The fire was blamed on Mrs. O'Leary's cow, which

was said to have kicked over a lantern to start the blaze (the cow vehemently denied the accusation). One of the few structures that survived the fire is the **Chicago Water Tower** on North Michigan Avenue, which stands as a historic monument to this day and continues to be one of its most famous landmarks.

In 1893, Chicago hosted the World's Columbian Exposition. The Exposition was considered the most influential world's fair in history. "The Devil in the White City," a best-selling work of historical fiction, chronicles the events of this era and intertwines the story of a serial killer (what did you expect; this is, after all, Chicago). One of the exhibit halls at the Columbian Exposition was the Columbian Museum of Chicago. It was later renamed the Field Museum after its primary benefactor, Marshall Field. It was moved to its present location on the **Museum Campus**, on Chicago's beautiful lake front, just south of the city. The **Museum of Science and Industry**, one of the most renowned of the city's museums, is now located at the former site of the Field Museum. In addition to the **Field Museum**, the Museum Campus encompasses the **Shedd Aquarium** and the **Adler Planetarium**. These museums are all considered among the best of their kind in the world. Also, one of the best photo-ops in the city is on the north side of the Adler planetarium looking back toward the city's skyline.

Chicago also has something for the flora and fauna aficionados. For zoo buffs, there is the **Lincoln Park Zoo**, a short distance north of downtown. Admission is free. For the garden enthusiasts among you, don't miss the **Chicago Botanic Garden**, north of the city in the suburb of Glenview. It is an immense garden "museum" with a number of sub-gardens (i.e., the Japanese garden), as well as numerous exhibits and other attractions. For more details, go to www.chicagobotanic.org.

Chicago is well-known for its theater and dining. There are far too many restaurants to list. You certainly won't go

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hungry. A good restaurant resource is the Chicago Dining Guide at www.chicagodiningguide.com. Another good source of information on dining in Chicago can be found at www.chicago.citysearch.com. For theater, Chicago is second to none. We have **Second City** (did I say “second to none?”), the Goodman Theatre, and Broadway plays such as “Jersey Boys.” You can get more detailed information by checking out www.theaterinchicago.com and www.broadwayinchicago.com.

planning law practice located in Wheaton, IL.

If classical music is on your agenda, don’t miss the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra**. The CSO is one of the pre-eminent orchestras in the world, performing at Symphony Center, located on South Michigan Avenue. There are also outdoor concerts at **Millennium Park**, which is in the heart of the city. Millennium Park also has many other attractions, and is a recent addition to the “culture” of Chicago.

Do you enjoy art? There are many art exhibits throughout the city but by far the most renowned is the **Art Institute of Chicago** located on Michigan Avenue south of and adjacent to Millennium Park.

There are quite a few other sights and attractions in the city:

- o **Navy Pier:** fun for the whole family, with a great view of Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline;
- o The **lakefront:** great place for a walk on a sunny day, and a wonderful place for people watching (many of them scantily clad);
- o **Wrigley Field:** the home of the Chicago Cubs (100 years without a World Series);
- o **The Cell:** Cellular One Field, where the Chicago White Sox play their home games;
- o Check out www.explorechicago.org for other things to do in Chicago;
- o For getting around town generally, go to www.transitchicago.com.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the “city that works.”

Brisske, Huck and Schultz are attorneys with Huck & Brisske, LLC, a client-centered, relationship-based estate