



THE
**CHICAGO
BAR
ASSOCIATION**

NEWS

RELEASE

The Chicago Bar Association
321 South Plymouth Court
Chicago, IL 60604-3997
Ph-312-554-2000
f-312-554-2054

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Linda Heacox
p- 312-554-2012
e-lheacox@chicagobar.org

JUSTICE JOY CUNNINGHAM TO BE HONORED WITH THE CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION'S DICKERSON AWARD

CHICAGO, ILL. (Feb. 4, 2014)—Hon. Joy V. Cunningham, Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, will be honored with the Chicago Bar Association's (CBA) Earl Burrus Dickerson Award on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at a luncheon ceremony at The Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago. An 11:30 a.m. reception kicks off the event. The luncheon and ceremony follow at 12:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$65 per person or \$650 per table of 10. For reservations, contact Tamra Drees at (312) 554-2057 or tdrees@chicagobar.org.

About Joy Cunningham

Joy Virginia Cunningham began her career in New York City, her hometown. After earning her nursing degree in New York, she relocated to Chicago and worked as a critical care nurse.

She earned her law degree from John Marshall Law School and began her legal career as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. She later served as a judicial law clerk to Illinois Appellate Court Justice Glenn T. Johnson. Throughout her diverse career, she has served as a law firm litigator; Associate General Counsel for Loyola University; Senior Vice-President and General Counsel for the Northwestern Memorial Healthcare System; and a judge of the circuit court of Cook County.

Justice Cunningham was elected President of the Chicago Bar Association in 2004, making her the first African American woman to lead the Association, which is the nation's largest municipal bar group. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the Chicago Bar Foundation, the Center for Conflict Resolution, the Center for Disability and Elder Law, the Chicago Legal Clinic, the Advisory Board of Loyola's School of Business Administration and Loyola University Health System.

She is the author of many legal publications and is a member of a number of professional and civic organizations, including the American Bar Association, Cook County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Women's Bar Association of Illinois and the Black Women Lawyers Association. She is actively involved in continuing legal and judicial education. Justice Cunningham has been recognized for her volunteer service to several community and civic organizations including the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, the Constitutional

Rights Foundation, Chicago Association for the Education of Young Children and the March of Dimes. She is a member of the Economic Club of Chicago and The Chicago Network. She devotes significant time to mentoring young people.

In December of 2006, she was elected a Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court for the First District – where she currently serves on the court's Executive Committee.

About the Earl Burrus Dickerson Award

The Dickerson award is given annually by the CBA to recognize minority lawyers and judges. The award honors the late Earl B. Dickerson, an outstanding lawyer and one of the first African-American members of The CBA. His life and professional career were devoted to the law and helping others gain equality and justice.

Past recipients have included such prominent lawyers as Mayor Harold Washington, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Chief Judge Timothy C. Evans of the Cook County Circuit Court and John H. Stroger, Jr., President, Cook County Board of Commissioners.

About the Chicago Bar Association

Founded in 1874, The Chicago Bar Association is one of the leading metropolitan bar associations in the United States. The 22,000-member CBA is governed by a 23-member Board of Managers and has 90 committees, which provide a wide variety of services to the legal profession, and to the public. For more information, visit the CBA online at chicagobar.org