

Chai-Lites

by Sharon L. Eiseman

For each issue of the Tablets, the Chai-Lites section features news about our busy members coming, going, celebrating, being recognized, speaking, writing, making new career moves, standing up for the oppressed, volunteering, and acquiring more new titles and awards than seems possible. Despite the COVID pandemic, many of those in the legal community, in bar associations, and specifically as members and supporters of Decalogue, have kept their focus on making the world a better place for all people.

And now comes the drum roll for the accomplishments of the following members:

First, let's kvell for our very own Decalogue Past President **Mitchell Goldberg** and several members of our Society, who will be sworn in on October 4 as Associate Judges of the Cook County Circuit Court. Joining Mitchell at the ceremony will be **Maryam Ahmad, Jasmine Hernandez, Matthew Jannusch, Martha-Victoria Jiminez, Diana Lopez,** and **Thomas Morrissey**. Clearly, we are looking at a future judiciary that represents the great diversity of the legal profession. Mazel Tov to ALL! We wish them well in their new positions, knowing they will be assets to the bench.

Board member **Jacqueline Carroll** was the recipient of one of two 2021 Building Bridges Awards recognizing individuals for their outstanding service in combating hate and discrimination. These awards were presented on September 14 by the Arab American Bar Association of Illinois and the Decalogue Society of Lawyers to work from a positive perspective on addressing discrimination in the legal profession and beyond. Jacqueline's co-awardee, Neda Shaheen, also was recognized for her important contribution in this crucial area of addressing prejudice, notably against women of color. She uses her legal skills and strong personal commitment to equality, to challenge discriminatory nationality laws. Neda is a Fellow with WCAPS, Women of Color Advancing Peace and Security and formerly served on the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

A bit more should be noted about Jacqueline to underscore the depth of her work combating hate and discrimination. Jacqueline is the founder and Chair of We Persist, a program under the auspices of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Midwest Community Engagement Committee. She's known for working in government and in private practice on civil rights issues, ADA and health-care claims and has addressed environmental issues. Understandably, we consider her a mighty champion of the rights of the vulnerable, wherever and whomever they may be.

Staying on the theme of the Building Bridges event, we cannot EVER forget how its underlying concept was embraced by some and led to the creation of the Building Bridges collaborative entity by one very determined Decalogue member, **Peter Tessler**. Without his energy and persistence, the Bridge might never have been built or would have quickly collapsed. Peter announced a few weeks ago that he is taking some big new steps in his life, beginning with a move to Boston, along with his fiancée Jamie Borash, where he will join American Tower Corporation as a real estate attorney. In case he

wondered about or doubted what he has meant to the rest of the Board members, we all assured Peter of his substantial value to the Society and how much we will miss him. In addition to his work on the Building Bridges Award Project, many Board members offered him kudos for his tech support in restructuring the DSL website. His love of and respect for the Society and its members was always evident in all he volunteered for us. We will miss him but fully support this new direction he is taking with a new life partner, which he considers an adventure. But Peter, PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH!

Have any of you been missing our immediate Past President **Patrick John**? Likely not, because he hasn't disappeared but remains an engaged member of DSL. Recently, Patrick and Cook County Bar Association Past President Harriet Parker were honored by the DSL and the CCBA with the Solidarity Award which, as the first of its kind for these bar associations, represents solidarity between the two groups in their initiatives to address racism, anti-Semitism, and intolerance while also strengthening the ties of our shared humanity. The ceremony took place during the recent DSL/CCBA co-hosted program at the Illinois Holocaust Museum memorializing Nelson Mandela, the first black President of South Africa, for his revolutionary and courageous work combating apartheid which landed him in prison for many years.

Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg, Decalogue Legislative Committee co-chair, and a former Board member, was named to the American Bar Association's 2021 On the Rise - Top 40 Young Lawyers Award list. Gail practices employee's side employment law at Loftus & Eisenberg, Ltd.

Board member **Charles Krugel** was recently appointed to the faculty at Loyola University Chicago's Quinlan School of Business where he'll be teaching employment relations this fall. Additionally, Chuck was also quoted in USA Today's August 9 article "[Fact check: Workers fired for refusing a vaccine are unlikely to qualify for unemployment](#)". Finally, on July 12, Chuck was also quoted in "[Guns in Cars in the Parking Lot](#)" on the Workplace Coach Blog.

Jim Naughton recently published an article in Loyola University Chicago's Law Review about the use of FOIA to uncover racial/gender disparities in how and to whom school discipline is meted out. This could prove to be a very interesting read due to data the article reveals. Look for the article at [SSRN.com](#).

Former Board member **Martin Gould** was recognized in the 2020 Edition of [Best Lawyers in America](#).

Jody Schneiderman has launched a new website: www.schneidermanfamilylaw.com.

And that's all there is ... for this round! If you want to see yourself in the next Chai-Lites section, don't be shy. Let us know what you are doing, writing, speaking about, teaching or creating, what awards you have received, what new additions you've welcomed into your family, what new style of mask you are wearing (and perhaps we might include a photo you are willing to share), or what case you recently won and why. We like to help make Decalogue members famous!