

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin®

Volume 164, No. 69

Serving Chicago's legal community for 163 years

Meeting CLE requirement a click away

With the June 30 Continuing Legal Education deadline fast approaching for Illinois lawyers whose last names begin with A to M, it is time to fill your 30-hour quota.

When it comes to accumulating CLE credits, on-demand programming affords flexibility and convenience for busy sole practitioners on the go.

Whether you are just getting started on coursework, or have only a few credits left to complete, check out the following CLE providers.

Their useful and free on-demand programs will take you across the finish line.

Ethics credits from the Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission and 2Civility

The ARDC is a fertile source for ethics credits. Its web-based library includes on-demand programs that easily meet the six-hour professional responsibility prerequisite, including new mandatory topics on diversity/inclusion and mental health/substance abuse.

Other ARDC courses cover current developments in fees and billing, maintaining client trust accounts and assessing potential conflicts of interest.

Further offerings include the new online self-assessment program, known as Proactive Management Based Regulation, or PMBR, which will be mandatory for 2019 registration by attorneys without malpractice insurance.

The ARDC provides 14.5 credits for ethics classes, plus four additional credits for the PMBR course. See the website at iardc.org/CLE_Opening_Page.pdf.

Three additional hours of ethics credits are available through the 2Civility organization, formed by the Illinois Supreme Court to promote professionalism. Take interactive courses on bias awareness, bridging generational divides and ethical issues confronted by in-house counsel. Navigate to 2civility.org/programs/cle/free-online-cle/ and get started.

K&L Gates offers 100 top courses for free CLE credit

If you are looking for quality online courses covering a broad array of current topics, taught by skilled and experienced practitioners, check out K&L Gates' HUB, an innovative, on-demand CLE web center.

Register for free and peruse the megafirm's abundant legal library, consisting of 100 programs approved for Illinois CLE credit and counting. The curriculum includes cutting-edge subjects such as cybersecurity, electronic discovery, social media risks and how to repre-

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sent victims of sexual cyber-harassment, along with current trends in the insurance and financial services industries, patent law and countless others.

Why does K&L Gates make this valuable asset available to lawyers for free? "It just makes good sense to contribute in this way," said Jeff Berardi, the firm's chief marketing officer.

SOLE SPEAK

GLENN E. HEILIZER



Glenn E. Heilizer is a veteran litigator and sole practitioner based in Chicago, and is the founder of the Sole Practitioners Bar Association of Illinois. Heilizer handles commercial disputes in the federal, state and appellate courts in Illinois and Wisconsin. He welcomes all questions and comments, and can be reached at glenn@heilizer.com.

While the HUB program was initially designed to foster and promote relationships with existing clients and their in-house counsel, Berardi said, those same resources can benefit the legal community at large. In the firm's

view, Berardi remarked, "sharing our resources is a win-win, for our clients and our fellow practitioners."

The K&L Gates online CLE center is located at kkgateshub.com/. Filter for Illinois-approved CLE using the "advanced search" function. Don't miss this rare opportunity to access a vast supply of top-notch courses at no cost.

Credits for education on veterans issues

For counsel who currently represent veterans or wish to expand their practice, two course providers offer free, on-demand programs that address veterans' issues.

The Practising Law Institute offers a three-credit class addressing veterans benefits and the interaction with Social Security and Medicaid, along with a six-credit course that discusses the VA claims system and how to apply for discharge upgrades. Proceed to pli.edu/ and search for "free CLE" to find these courses.

The Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education also offers a three-credit video addressing services for veterans, including benefits programs, family law and bankruptcy. It can be found at iicle.com/veterans-day-cle-conference-presented-by-the-dupage-county-bar-association.

One last credit for ethical witness preparation

Lastly, if you find yourself in need of a single ethics credit to complete your quota, take a look at Lexvid. The online CLE provider primarily offers paid packages, but includes a no-obligation course on ethical and privilege issues when preparing witnesses to testify.

Obtain a refresher on this important topic, and a free credit, by going to lexvid.com/ and clicking "get started for free."

In sum, there are abundant, no-cost CLE classes available at your desk with the click of a mouse. Get started on these beneficial programs today and meet your June 30 deadline with time to spare.