# **Please Join the Illinois Human Rights Commission**



February 25, 2021

Duration: 12:00 pm—1:00 pm

Please bring your lunch

### Lunch & Learn via WebEx

Please visit www.illinois.gov/ihrc for WebEx information

## **CLE Credit:**

One hour of general CLE credit for Illinois attorneys (pending)

#### Presenters— ALLISON K. BETHEL, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Fair Housing Legal Clinic UIC John Marshall Law School

**Topic**—Fair Housing and the Pandemic: An Update on the Law and Emerging Issues

#### **Biography**

**ALLISON K. BETHEL** joined UIC John Marshall Law School in 2008 as a Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Fair Housing Legal Clinic. She is a Chicago native and received her BS from Northwestern University and her J.D. from the University of Florida. While in law school, she received numerous awards for her advocacy skills including Best Oral Advocate, Best Brief Award and the Presidential Recognition Award.

Following law school, she worked in the private sector for two AV rated law firms in south Florida specializing in civil trial work. She later joined the Florida Attorney General's Office where she was appointed Assistant Director of the Civil Rights Division. In that capacity, she supervised the development and litigation of civil rights cases throughout the State of Florida. In 2000, she was promoted to Director of Civil Rights and remained in that position, serving both Republican and Democrat administrations, until joining the law school in 2008. As Director of Civil Rights, Ms. Bethel litigated landmark civil rights cases, including a multimillion dollar action against a major hotel chain, drafted and successfully lobbied for historic amendments to Florida's civil rights act and developed innovative education and training programs.

Professor Bethel is AV rated, which is the highest rating a lawyer may receive by the Martindale-Hubbell rating system. She is a member of the Alternative Dispute Section Council for the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) and the Legal Education, Admissions and Competence Committee (LEAC). She is Past Chair of the LEAC, Past Co-Chair of the Clinical Legal Education Section and Clinicians of Color Committee of the American Association of Law Schools. Other affiliations include serving as President of the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association, the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar and the Chicago Area Fair Housing Association. In 2018, she was recognized for outstanding service to the law school and in 2020 for outstanding service as faculty advisor to the Black Law Students Association.