

NEWS

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WINNERS OF HERMAN KOGAN MEDIA AWARDS ANNOUNCED: KEYNOTER MARY MITCHELL OF THE SUN TIMES CHARMS AT 19TH ANNUAL JOURNALISM COMPETITION

CHICAGO, ILL. (May 8, 2008)—The Chicago Tribune, WBBM Channel 2 and legal trade magazine, *Chicago Lawyer*, took the prestigious Herman Kogan Media Awards for 2008 awarded by The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) at a May 8 luncheon. WMAQ Channel 5, WBEZ Chicago Public Radio and *The Daily Herald* were also honored with Meritorious Achievement Awards at the luncheon held at the CBA in Chicago.

Chicago Sun-Times columnist Mary Mitchell, delivered keynote remarks focusing on the critical importance of legal affairs reporting and described her own unorthodox path to her respected position as an editorial board member and widely-read columnist.

2008 Awards

The Kogan Awards for went to:

In the **Broadcast Category**--Investigative reporter Dave Savini, producer Michele Youngerman and photographer/editor Mike Klingele of WBBM CBS Channel 2 for "Fly at Your Own Risk," a startling expose of security lapses at O'Hare International Airport that inspired a new law, the "Airport Badge Security Act;"

In the **Print Category**--National correspondent Howard Witt, *Chicago Tribune* for "Hidden Legal Struggles Reveal Unfinished Business of Civil Rights in America," a multi-part series that challenges readers to understand the subtle ways in which racial discrimination still mars U.S. courts and the justice system;

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In the **Legal Trade Reporting Category**--Staff writer Maria Kantzavelos of *Chicago Lawyer* for "26th and Cal: Snapshots from the Criminal Courts Building," a detailed portrait of Chicago's criminal courthouse that takes readers into the daily drama of the people whose lives are affected by the activities of one of the largest, busiest courts in the world.

Meritorious Achievement Awards went to:

In the **Broadcast Category**--Producer Robin Green and reporter Lisa Parker of WMAQ-TV for "No Accident," which identified the quirks in a 60-year-old Illinois law that make legitimate claims against the CTA in accident cases all but impossible;

In the **Broadcast Category**--Producer Cate Cahan, mix engineer Ken Davis, and reporter Linda Paul of WBEZ-FM/Chicago Public Radio for "Debating Life Without Parole for Young People," a look at the devastating effects of the law that allows a lifetime of incarceration for juveniles convicted of serious crimes;

In the **Print Category**--Staff reporter Jeff Kelly Lowenstein and managing editor Rui Kaneya, *Chicago Reporter* for "Missed Signals," an exhaustive examination of lawsuits against police officers involved in fatal shootings;

In the **Print Category**--Business writer Anna Marie Kukec and real estate writer Deborah Donovan, *Daily Herald* for "The Dream Foreclosed," an expansive series of articles probing the housing lending crisis in suburban Chicago.

"We were blessed with a great array of entries this year covering topics that all of us should be reading and looking at. These reporters do great work to make us aware of issues that can change our lives," said Kogan Award Committee Chair Angela Harkless.

"The judges are always impressed by the quality of reporting we get here in Chicago," she said. "This is the legal profession's way of encouraging that."

About the Herman Kogan Media Awards

The Herman Kogan Media Award Competition was established in 1989 to honor local journalists and legal affairs reporting. The Competition celebrates the career of Herman Kogan, whose career spanned more than 50 years and included experience as a reporter, feature and editorial writer, editor, author, historian, biographer, literary critic, radio host and television executive.

In addition to the Kogan trophy, a \$1,000.00 scholarship donation will be made in the name of each Kogan winner to the university English or Journalism department of his/her choice.

About The Chicago Bar Association

Founded in 1874, The Chicago Bar Association is one of the largest metropolitan bar associations in the United States. The CBA is governed by a 23-member Board of Managers and has 55 Practice Committees, 23 Service Committees and 15 Special 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