

## **FOREWORD**

I am pleased to present the 2008 Hiram H. Lesar Survey of Illinois Law, which has been published every summer since 1984. In 1984, the Illinois State Bar Association joined forces with the Southern Illinois University School of Law Journal to produce high quality articles geared toward the practice of law. The focus of the Survey of Illinois Law is to provide articles of analytical quality written by judges and practicing attorneys about recent changes in the laws of Illinois in order to provide guidance and assistance to those practicing law in Illinois.

I would like to take this chance to thank all of the people who made this issue a possibility. First, I would like to thank all the authors who took their valuable free time and wrote great articles in such a short amount of time, especially those authors who have written multiple years in a row. It was their time and dedication that made this issue possible. I would also like to acknowledge Michelle Clark, the Editor in Chief for the 2009 Survey of Illinois Law issue, who took the project over at a critical stage and made sure it was complete. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge Frank Houdek, SIU Law Journal advisor, and Susan Williams, Business Manager, for their ongoing support, guidance, and effort that make this journal possible. And finally, the hard work and dedication of the SIU Law Journal staff should be recognized.

It is my hope that this issue offers guidance and practical applications of the recent changes in the law. Thank you to the Illinois State Bar Association for their support of the project, and thank you to you, the reader, for taking the time to support this project. The issue is a great resource for the legal community and is made possible by you.

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