

FOREWORD

It is my privilege to present the 2009 Hiram H. Lesar Survey of Illinois Law. The *Southern Illinois University Law Journal* has published the Survey edition annually since 1987, with the continuing goal of providing the bench and the bar a source of information on recent developments in various areas of Illinois law. Sixteen years ago, the Illinois State Bar Association joined the SIU Law Journal in its endeavor to publish the annual Survey issue. This partnership greatly enhanced the quality and influence of the Survey and is now an indispensable facet of the publication.

In addition to the topical articles in this year's Survey, we are delighted to include the winning essay from the Lincoln Writing Contest sponsored by the Southern Illinois University School of Law. As part of the school's celebration of the bicentennial anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's birth, it sponsored a contest encouraging students to write essays pertaining to President Lincoln's legal career. A panel of judges, attorneys, and professors from around the state selected Tara Renaud's essay, "Lincoln the Lawyer," as the winning composition.

In conclusion, I would like to recognize those individuals who made this publication possible. First, I would like to thank the contributing ISBA authors for the highly informative articles they submitted to the 2009 edition. I would also like to express my profound appreciation to Susan Williams, Business Manager of the Law Journal, for her tireless work and her dedication to the quality of our publications, and to Frank Houdek for his ongoing support as SIU Law Journal Advisor. Finally, I would like to applaud the 2008-09 SIU Law Journal Staff for their exemplary efforts in preparing these articles for publication and wish my successor, Nicholas Haynes, well in the completion of the next issue of the Survey of Illinois Law.

Michelle D. Clark
Editor in Chief
Survey of Illinois Law

