

Milwaukee Lawyer Chapter

Dear Friends,

I'm writing to you in my capacity as the chair of the Milwaukee Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society (ACS), the nation's foremost association of progressive lawyers. First, please join us for a 2018 year-end Progressive Happy Hour on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at Riverfront Pizzeria, 509 E. Erie St, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., co-sponsored with the Wisconsin Justice Initiative. Second, I'm hoping you will continue your involvement with ACS today by renewing your membership for what promises to be an exciting 2019 in Wisconsin, or joining for the first time. You can renew right now here.

This past year the ACS Milwaukee Lawyer Chapter sponsored many great events, including:

- > Hosting Attorney Hannah Shearer of the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence at Marquette Law School for a discussion on Second Amendment Law;
- > Co-Hosting two judicial panel discussions in Milwaukee and Madison co-sponsored with the Wisconsin Hispanic, African-American, Asian-American, and LGBT Bar Associations discussing bench diversity in our state;
- > Co-Sponsorship of a Criminal Justice Reform Conference at the Thompson Center on Public Leadership;
- > A full-day CLE co-sponsored with the Association of Women Lawyers on Closing the Gavel Gap/Becoming a Judge.

Our Milwaukee board leadership is also making its presence known publishing opinion pieces, like <u>this one in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Wisconsin criminal justice reform</u>.

Being a member of the Milwaukee Lawyer Chapter of ACS connects you to the national ACS network, which hosts events across the country including a national convention in Washington DC in June. ACS responds to issues of national importance as they arise, deploying resources and volunteers, and serves as a valuable resource of professional development. Now more than ever, progressive voices need to coordinate and fight together to preserve our values.

In addition, as an ACS member, you will receive exclusive member benefits including the weekly e-bulletin, access to job postings, and special invitations to in-person and online activities.

Wisconsin ACS members have exciting opportunities in 2019 to participate in shaping our local bench and bar, and continuing the momentum toward progressive causes indicated by Wisconsin's recent election results. The national organization is committed to my goals of growing the ACS Milwaukee chapter and taking on the fight against the right-wing extremist attack on our Constitution, but we need your help to succeed. Please consider joining or renewing your membership today by visiting the ACS website here. Minimum membership donations are just \$50 for private attorneys, and \$25 for public/non-profit attorneys. If you sign up today, your membership will be good through December 31, 2019.

So please, make a year-end contribution by joining our ranks, and sign on to the fight to save our Constitution and champion progressive causes in Wisconsin and beyond!

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season,

Craig Mastantuono