



November 2014

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## Important Dates

- [Business Law Section Fall Meeting](#)  
November 21-22, 2014  
Washington, DC

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## Editorial Board

- **Gowri Krishna**,  
Editor/Committee Chair

### Leadership Message



Dear Members of the Community Economic Development Committee:

On behalf of the new leadership of the CED Committee, welcome to the Fall 2015 edition of the Committee newsletter! I am excited to take on the role of Chair of the CED Committee and to work with an enthusiastic new leadership board. Many thanks to Dana Thompson for her leadership during the previous term. I hope that we can continue to build the Committee and help advance legal practice in the field of CED.

This newsletter introduces the new Committee Directors and our goals for 2014-2015. See below for information on upcoming events including a webinar on the Form 1023EZ, a conference call for all who are interested in sharing ideas for and participating in the Committee, and a new initiative to spotlight Committee members.

Sincerely,  
Gowri Krishna  
gkrishna@rwu.edu

### Introducing the Committee Directors

**Gowri Krishna**, Chair - Gowri Krishna is an Associate Clinical Professor of Law and the Founding Director of the Community Economic Development Clinic at Roger Williams University School of Law in Rhode Island. She joined the RWU Law faculty in the fall of 2013 to start up the CED Clinic and previously taught in CED Clinics at the University of Michigan and Fordham Law Schools. Her areas of interest include lawyering in support of democratic, community-based institutions.



**Dorcas Gilmore**, Vice Chair - Dorcas Gilmore is a Consultant working with national and regional nonprofit organizations and small businesses on racial and economic equity, organizational development, values alignment, and leadership. Previously, she was a Practitioner in Residence in the Community & Economic Development Law Clinic at American University Washington College of Law; Assistant General Counsel for the national office of the NAACP; and Skadden Fellow & Staff Attorney at the Community Law Center, Inc.

**Michael Haber**, Director - Michael Haber is an Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the CED Clinic at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, Hofstra University. Working in Long Island, New York, much of his work since 2012 has been rooted in community-driven efforts to recover and rebuild following "Superstorm" Sandy. His other areas of focus include affordable housing development, democratic governance structures, and law and organizing. Prior to coming to Hofstra Law, he spent 6 years with the CED Unit at Brooklyn Legal Services Corp. A in Brooklyn, NY.

**Kelsey Ripper**, Director - Kelsey Ripper is a Staff Attorney and Equal Justice



Works Fellow at Lawyers Alliance for New York. She provides business and transactional legal services to nonprofit organizations serving low-income communities in New York City. Her work focuses primarily on organizations addressing food security and food justice, with a particular emphasis on developing urban agriculture as a means of community economic development.

## Goals and Upcoming Events for 2014-2015

The Committee's goals for the year are to build up its membership and leadership, spotlight the work of its members, and facilitate relevant programming and content.

Upcoming events:

**Webinar on Form 1023EZ.** Tune in on Tuesday, November 18th, 9 a.m. PST/12 p.m. EST to learn about the Form 1023EZ.

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**To join the online meeting** (Now from mobile devices!)

- 1. Go to <https://intercall.webex.com/intercall/j.php?MTID=m4324dd3ff8291857ba31d4a935cb67b2>  
 2. Enter your name and email address.  
 3. Click "Join".

**Provide your phone number when you join the meeting to receive a call back.**

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**To join the teleconference only**

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 Call-in toll-free number: 1-866-6466488 (US/Canada)  
 Call-in number: 1-707-2879583 (US/Canada)  
 Show global numbers: <https://www.tconline.com/offSite/OffSiteController.jsp?cc=4729630829>  
 Conference Code: 472 963 0829

**Committee Conference Call -- Get Involved!** Have ideas for topics the Committee should cover? Want to help plan programs, develop content, edit the newsletter or otherwise get involved with the Committee? Come join the committee leadership! We will plan a committee call for those who are interested. Please email Gowri at [gkrishna@rwu.edu](mailto:gkrishna@rwu.edu) if you would like to join the call.

**Member Spotlight.** We plan to spotlight Committee Members throughout the year by emailing to the member listserv a picture, brief bio and some highlights from the work of a fellow member. This will be a nice way for members to learn about other members and their CED work. Please let us know if you would like for us to include a brief write-up on you in our next mailing and the specific focus of your area of work. Also, email Gowri at [gkrishna@rwu.edu](mailto:gkrishna@rwu.edu) if you would like to be featured in a future member spotlight.

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