### USING INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

AND

### THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

TO

# Work for Justice in the U.S.



## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2007

9:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

at the

# **Holiday Inn on the Hill**

415 New Jersey Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Jointly sponsored by the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute and the National Lawyers Guild International Committee

\*CLE credit applied for in Virginia and California for the afternoon program\*

	Schedule of MCLI CLE: Wednesday, October 31, 2007
9:30 am	John Brittain: Introduction of Presenters and Participants How Activists Are 'Winning' by Making Reports under 'New' U.N. Laws, and
9:50 am	Reporters Are Reporting  by Ajamu Baraka for Human Rights Reporting Network, Hon. Claudia  Morcom, and Lance Tapley
10:45 am	Discussion
11:15 am	How Citizens Are 'Winning' by Putting U.N. Treaties into Statutes and Ordinances by Ann Fagan Ginger on Berkeley and San Francisco Ordinances
11:40 am	Discussion
12:15 pm	Adjourn for lunch
1:15 pm	John Brittain: Introduction of Presenters and Participants
1:30 pm	How Lawyers Are Winning by Using 'New' U.N. Human Rights Laws in U.S.  Courts by Curtis Cooper_and Marjorie Cohn
2:15 pm	Questions
2:30 pm	Discussion
2:40 pm	Groups receive Case description: Discuss how to present Treaty issues to Judge, to Jury, to Fellow Lawyers
3:00 pm	<b>Groups Present Treaty issue to Audience</b>
3:25 pm	Break
3:40 pm	The Office of Inspector General: Reappraising Its Role in a Post 9/11 World by Bruce Zagaris
4:10 pm	Filing a Complaint for Failure of a U.S. Government Agency to File a Required Report under a U.N. Treaty by Ann Fagan Ginger
4:20 pm	Questions and Discussion
4:40 pm	Groups receive Case description: Discuss how to find relevant OIG
5:00 pm	Groups present conclusions to all
5:45 pm	Adjourn

#### THE FACULTY



After practicing civil rights law in Mississippi and San Francisco, **John Brittain** taught for two decades at the University of Connecticut, during which time he served as president of the National Lawyers Guild (1991-1993). From 1999-2002, Brittain held the post of dean at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in Houston. Since 2005, he has been the chief counsel and deputy director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington, DC.

**Ajamu Baraka** is executive director of the US Human Rights Network, based in Atlanta. He has played a leading role in galvanizing support within the United States for holding our government accountable before the United Nations through the "shadow reporting" process, in which public interest organizations and activists organize around the UN human rights reporting treaties ratified by the US.

The Honorable Claudia Morcom (ret.) led the National Lawyers Guild Committee to Assist Southern Lawyers in Mississippi in the 1960s before serving as a Wayne County Circuit Court Judge in Michigan. On behalf of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute and the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, she has made several presentations to the UN Human Rights Committee, the UN Committee Against Torture, and the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

**Lance Tapley** lives in Maine and writes for numerous publications, including the Portland Phoenix. Earlier this year, he received the Maine State Bar Association's Excellence in Legal Journalism award for an ongoing series published in the Phoenix about torture in Maine's prisons.

Ann Fagan Ginger's career began in 1947. She is currently executive director of Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute in Berkeley, CA., which she helped found in 1965. She worked as executive director of the National Lawyers Guild in the McCarthy era, and won a challenge to the Ohio UnAmerican Activities Commission in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1959. She has taught at several law schools and colleges and published numerous books and articles, with emphasis in recent years on UN human rights treaties.

**Curtis Cooper** is co-chair of the National Lawyers Guild's International Committee. He graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2001 and lives in Baltimore, where he practices in the fields of Social Security disability, employment law, prisoners' rights, immigration, and copyright.

Marjorie Cohn teaches at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego and is president of the National Lawyers Guild. She frequently appears in the media as a legal expert on international, constitutional, and criminal law. Cohn's latest book is "Cowboy Republic: Six Ways the Bush Gang has Defied the Law" (PoliPointPress, 2007).

**Bruce Zagaris** is a partner at Berliner, Corcoran & Rowe, LLP in Washington, DC, where his practice focuses on international criminal law and international tax law. He has taught at several law schools in the United States, and published numerous articles and books.

#### Cost



Postmarked by September 15, 2007

\$125 for Lawyers

\$50 for Students

\$80 for all others

Postmarked by October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007

\$150 for Lawyers

\$50 for Students

\$80 for all others



After October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007

\$175 for Lawyers

\$60 for Students

\$100 for all others

\_\_\_\_\_

### Registration for UN Treaty and Office of Inspector Seminar, October 31, 2007

Name	
Address	
Phone	email
Area of Practice_	
	Are you taking this course for CLE* credit? ☐ Yes ☐ No
	*CLE credit applied for in Virginia and California for the afternoon program
	Credit Card Payment: MC□ Visa□
Card #	Code #



or checks to: "MCLI", P.O. Box 673, Berkeley, CA 94701-0673