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Clerk Brown Forms Archives Advisory Committee

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, recently hosted a group of highly respected leaders from legal, academic, and governmental sectors during the inaugural meeting of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County's Records Management and Archives Advisory Committee.

The mission of the committee is to inform the Clerk of pertinent issues regarding the discipline of record keeping as they relate to the Clerk's Office. Additionally, the committee will offer an exchange of ideas appropriate for Records Management and Archival Administration and share thoughts as to how the Clerk's Office can heighten awareness of its functions and introduce new initiatives to improve services.

"I have always been fascinated by the wealth of information our judicial system creates, and the impact this information has on our society," said Clerk Brown. "When I was a law student, I recognized the significance of these records, and as Clerk of the Circuit Court, I am committed to their proper care and preservation for generations to come."

The collection of records at the Clerk's Office runs the gamut from the mundane to the infamous. Evidence from high profile cases such as, the Leopold and Loeb trial, the Haymarket Riot and the Black Sox scandal are stored in the Records Center. The collection is a treasure trove of information regularly used by historians, legal scholars, genealogists, sociologists, journalists and other interested parties.

"Assembling a group of experts to work with our Records Management Bureau will help ensure our success toward becoming a world-class research facility," Clerk Brown explained. "As stewards of this important collection, we are charged with its proper preservation for future generations of researchers. Today's records are tomorrow's history."

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PHOTO CAPTION

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County (seated first row, second from left), poses with members of the recently inaugurated Records Management and Archives Advisory Committee at the Richard J. Daley Center.