

Chapman Collaborates with Spark Program Inc. to Offer Finance Focused Programming

Chapman helps expand virtual learning to help young people discover fulfilling career paths.

CHICAGO, December 2, 2020 — Chapman and Cutler LLP is expanding educational initiatives with Spark Program Inc., a national nonprofit that develops programming that correlates professional mentorship, educational engagement, and future achievement with middle school students from diverse backgrounds. In collaboration with Spark Chicago, Chapman attorneys Charles Calloway and Rebecca Fabian are spearheading the firm’s efforts to expand experiential learning opportunities for middle school students in underserved neighborhoods in the Chicagoland area through virtual workshops and project based mentorship programs with career professionals.

“I am delighted that we have the opportunity to introduce students to careers in financial services,” said Charles Calloway, an associate in Chapman’s Corporate Finance Department who serves on the Spark Chicago Executive Board and was recently elected to the National Board of Directors of Spark. “On December 3 we are hosting a finance focused lab – the first of several such labs – to introduce students to the business of finance. I am looking forward to showcasing the possibilities of a career in financial services for the Spark Chicago program students.”

“Finance is a topic that is often unfamiliar to students,” said Rebecca Fabian, an associate in Chapman’s Corporate Finance Department, who volunteers as a Spark Chicago Ambassador. “We hope our collaboration with Spark Chicago will help get students excited and want to learn more about career opportunities in financial services.” Chapman attorneys Walt Draney, Bryan Jacobson, Kathryn Maass, and Tony Yager will join Charles Calloway and Rebecca Fabian in the December 3 Spark Chicago lab.

Earlier this year, Chapman increased its financial commitment with Spark. “The firm has supported Spark Chicago since the program launched in Chicago in 2011 and we are proud to help advance the organization’s mission and approach,” said William M. Libit, Chapman’s Chief Operating Partner.

About Chapman and Cutler

The representation of financial institutions has been central to Chapman and Cutler’s practice since its founding in 1913. Starting from a base of banking and public finance, the firm and its practice areas have grown and evolved to become a sophisticated provider of legal services to banks, corporations, insurance companies, investment funds, and other participants in the financial services sector. Today, Chapman has offices in Charlotte, Chicago, New York, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Washington, DC, dedicated to representing financial services clients with respect to transactional, regulatory, tax, and litigation matters. For more information, visit chapman.com.

About Spark

Spark Program Inc. was founded in 2004 with a mission to engage communities to provide career exploration and self-discovery opportunities that help middle school students understand, experience, and pursue what’s possible. What began with a few students and mentors in Redwood City has grown into a national movement helping students discover career options and connect their future with classroom learning through skill-building and mentoring. In addition to the Bay Area, Spark operates programs in Chicago and Philadelphia. In Chicago, Spark has grown from four partner schools and 60 students since launching 2011 to an organization partnering with eight schools and 300 students annually. For more information, visit sparkprogram.org.