



THE
CHICAGO
BAR
ASSOCIATION

Green Guide

To Judicial Candidates in Cook County

The Chicago Bar Association's Evaluations
Of Judicial Candidates Running for Office
In the November 8, 2016 General Election

Provided as a public service of The Chicago Bar Association

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INTRODUCTION TO THE CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION'S JUDICIAL EVALUATION PROGRAM

By Board resolution, the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) is the semi-autonomous committee of The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) that conducts evaluations of candidates for judicial offices and sitting judges seeking retention within Cook County. As a service to the public, The CBA reports the findings of the JEC for all elections. The evaluations are designed to inform the public and the courts of the qualifications, independence and integrity of judicial candidates. The CBA believes that the quality of the administration of justice in our courts is determined in large part by the quality of our judges.

History

The CBA has a long history of judicial evaluation, dating before the turn-of-the-century, and taking many forms over the years -- from running a "Bar Ticket" in 1887 -- to the present comprehensive procedure adopted in 1976. At that time, a special committee of the Board of Managers, chaired by then CBA President John D. Hayes, recommended a total revamping of the process to minimize political and bar politics, and embrace the concepts of random selection of evaluators and investigators, and to assure the confidentiality of the process and sources.

The CBA Board of Managers regularly reviews and evaluates the procedures and operations of the JEC. The JEC's governing resolution and its guidelines were both revised in 1987. The current JEC governing resolution was amended on April 23, 2015.

Scope & Purpose

Judicial candidates and sitting judges who participate in The CBA's screening process are evaluated on the basis of eight criteria: integrity, legal knowledge, legal ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, diligence, punctuality, and health factors.

By providing these findings, along with "The Statements of Reasons," The CBA helps inform and educate the public about the upcoming judicial contests in the general election.

The CBA's 200-member Judicial Evaluation Committee annually invests thousands of volunteer attorney hours in this thorough, comprehensive and diverse peer review process evaluating more than 300 candidates for appointive and elective judicial positions within Cook County. The evaluation process for the candidates in the General Election began in June 2016. The guidelines and standards developed by the 20,000-member CBA for rating judges have been adopted almost entirely by the American Bar Association as a model for local and state bar evaluation programs.

The Investigative Process

The Committee's work begins when the candidate submits his or her completed questionnaire. The 16-page questionnaire for sitting judges, require the candidate to list personal, professional and judicial references and to provide the names of lawyers who have recently appeared before him or her. Candidates with fewer than four years on the bench are also asked to identify adversaries with whom they worked before taking the bench. Lawyer candidates are asked to provide detailed information about their jury and non-jury trial experiences, the names of five judges before whom they have appeared and a list of at least 20 lawyers who have represented adverse positions in matters handled by them.

All candidates are also asked to relate any present or recent health problems and to submit written authorizations signed by their doctors. Complaints against a candidate to the Attorney's Registration and Disciplinary Commission and the Judicial Inquiry Board are to be described, and relevant reports and correspondence submitted with the questionnaire. Criticism of professional misconduct, in any formal civil or criminal proceeding or in the media, must also be reported by the candidate.

The JEC obtained written materials dealing with the candidates' judicial performance from the major newspapers. In several cases, transcripts and other relevant, publicly available documents relating to official investigations of judges and court personnel were obtained from official sources.

The complete file was then assigned to a two-person investigation team. The investigators conducted personal interviews with the listed legal references. A specially assigned team of investigators reviewed the files of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and submitted to the investigators and the hearing panel a report on the information disclosed in those files. On completion of the interviews and a review of the file materials, the investigations team completed a comprehensive report regarding the qualifications of the candidate.

The Hearing Process

Hearings were conducted on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and on Saturday mornings. Hearing division members were randomly assigned, in accordance with the JEC resolution, to either of two hearing rooms by a blind drawing for room assignment. Typically, 12 to 15 JEC members were assigned to each room. Only at that time did they learn which candidates they would be evaluating and who the other members of the panel were. Each member of the hearing panel was provided with a copy of the investigator's report, a copy of the completed questionnaire with all material submitted by the candidate, and copies of any other relevant documents including, in some cases, newspaper clippings and transcripts of court proceedings.

Each member and the candidate execute a written oath to keep the nature and content of the report, questioning, and hearing confidential.

The JEC included in its investigation all possible sources of information available to it. However, because the Committee cannot compel the production of evidence or the attendance of witnesses before it nor, understandably, expect disclosure by the authorities of evidence discovered in pending investigations, the JEC cannot be assured that it has uncovered all the evidence which, in the future, may lead to formal charges. Within its authority, the JEC develops the most complete record available and gives careful and thoughtful consideration to the available evidence.

A member of the Executive Committee chaired each hearing. The candidate was advised of the procedures to be employed at the hearing and then questioned at length by the chair in regard to abilities, experiences, perceived strengths and weaknesses and, where appropriate, specific problems disclosed in the investigation. The chair then invited questions from members of the hearing panel. The candidate was then given an opportunity to make any statement he or she chose in his or her own behalf. On excusing the candidate from the hearing room, the chair then opened the floor to discussion of the candidate's qualifications among the panel members. Only after the members had been given the opportunity to openly voice their opinions was the issue of the finding of the JEC put to a vote.

The Vote

The hearing panel members voted by secret ballot and were asked to rate the candidate as "Highly Qualified," "Qualified" or "Not Recommended." The JEC's governing resolution provides that to be found "Highly Qualified," the candidate must receive that rating on 80% of the ballots. To be found "Qualified" the candidate must receive a favorable rating on 60% of the ballots. The failure of a candidate to receive 60 percent affirmative vote results in a finding of "Not Recommended." Each hearing panel member was also asked for written comments on the candidate's qualifications, areas worthy of commendation and areas of needed improvement. Following a tabulation of the vote, the chair reviewed and capsulized the written comments in preparing the statement of reasons given in support of the Committee's finding.

The Appellate Review Committee

On July 12, 1990, The Chicago Bar Association's Board of Managers adopted procedures establishing a separate Appellate Review Committee to act independently from the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC).

The new Appellate Review Committee was recommended by a special committee appointed by past president Chester L. Blair. Made up of 30 lawyers, the committee hears appeals only from candidates who receive a "Not Recommended" rating from the JEC.

The candidate may request a re-evaluation by the appellate committee only on the basis that he or she believes that errors or omissions were made in the original screening process.

The Resolution adopted by the CBA's Board of Managers provides that:

A re-evaluation shall only be ordered on a determination that the Judicial Evaluation Committee's Hearing Division's finding was clearly erroneous. A re-evaluation shall not be ordered solely because the Appellate Review Panel disagrees with the Judicial Evaluation Committee's findings.

The Appellate Review Committee's authority will be limited to directing that the candidate be given a new hearing by the JEC or denying the appeal.

Prior to the formation of the new Appellate Review Committee, all appeals were handled within the JEC. These new appellate procedures only apply to candidates evaluated by the JEC after July 12, 1990.

Reporting of Findings

The CBA has always reported its JEC findings to the public for all elective judicial positions.

On February 19, 1987, The CBA Board of Managers amended the JEC governing resolution to provide publication of "Statements of Reasons" for all such elective positions and specified appointive positions, such as associate judgeships.

**CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE FINDINGS FOR
NOVEMBER 8, 2016 JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION**

The Chicago Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee completed its evaluation process for retention candidates on August 18, 2016. Candidates participating in the JEC screening process received a finding of "Qualified" or "Not Recommended." Of the 58 judges on the ballot, The JEC found one Illinois Appellate Justice "Qualified," and 57 Circuit Court judges "Qualified" to be retained by Cook County voters.

The results for retention candidate evaluations and findings are as follows:

ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT

QUALIFIED

Joy V. Cunningham

CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

QUALIFIED

Robert Balanoff
Jeanne R. Cleveland Bernstein
Steven James Bernstein
Robert W. Bertucci
Kathleen Marie Burke
Charles Patrick Burns
John Patrick Callahan, Jr.
Bonita Coleman
Ann Finley Collins
Paula Marie Daleo
Deborah Mary Dooling
Laurence J. Dunford
Timothy C. Evans
Denise Kathleen Filan
Nicholas R. Ford
Daniel James Gallagher
Vincent Michael Gaughan
John C. Griffin
Sophia H. Hall
Kay Marie Hanlon

Edward S. Harmening
William H. Hooks
Arnette R. Hubbard
Cheyrl D. Ingram
Raymond L. Jagielski
Sharon O. Johnson
Linzey D. Jones
Thomas J. Kelley
John Patrick Kirby
Geary W. Kull
Bertina E. Lampkin
Diane Joan Larsen
Daniel Joseph Lynch
Thomas V. Lyons
Terence F. MacCarthy
William Maki
Daniel B. Malone
Leroy K. Martin, Jr.
James Patrick McCarthy

Clare Elizabeth McWilliams
Mary Lane Mikva
Raymond W. Mitchell
Allen Murphy
Patrick T. Murphy
Timothy Patrick Murphy
Kathleen Mary Pantle
Daniel James Pierce
Sandra G. Ramos
Jim Ryan
Kevin Michael Sheehan
Irwin J. Solganick
Sharon Marie Sullivan
Susan Kennedy Sullivan
John D. Turner, Jr.
Edward Washington, II
Alexander Patrick White
Thaddeus L. Wilson

FINDINGS FOR COOK COUNTY JUDGES SEEKING RETENTION

FOR JUSTICE OF THE ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT

JOY V. CUNNINGHAM

QUALIFIED

Justice Joy V. Cunningham is “Qualified” for retention as a Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. Justice Cunningham was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1982 and has served as an Appellate Court Justice since 2006. Justice Cunningham was elected by her peers to serve as the Presiding Justice of the First Division and is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law and well-reasoned opinions.

**FINDINGS FOR COOK COUNTY JUDGES SEEKING RETENTION
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY**

ROBERT BALANOFF

QUALIFIED

Judge Robert Balanoff is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Balanoff was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1982 and became a judge in 2004. Judge Balanoff is assigned to the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Division. Judge Balanoff effectively manages a difficult court call and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law and dedication to public service.

JEANNE R. CLEVELAND BERNSTEIN

QUALIFIED

Judge Jeanne R. Cleveland Bernstein is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Bernstein was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1971 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Cleveland is assigned to the Domestic Relations Division and is well regarded for her work ethic, punctuality, knowledge of the law, and judicial experience.

STEVEN J. BERNSTEIN

QUALIFIED

Judge Steven J. Bernstein is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Bernstein was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1971 and has served as a judge since 2010. Judge Bernstein is currently assigned to the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Division. Judge Bernstein is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and fine demeanor.

ROBERT BERTUCCI

QUALIFIED

Judge Robert Bertucci is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Bertucci was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1983 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992. Judge Bertucci is assigned to the County Division and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, even-temperament, and integrity.

KATHLEEN BURKE

QUALIFIED

Judge Kathleen Burke is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Burke was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1989 and has served as a judge since 2004. Judge Burke is currently assigned to the Fifth Municipal District where she hears civil actions and post-judgment matters. Judge Burke possesses an excellent demeanor and is well regarded for her fairness and efficient/effective management of a busy court call involving many pro se litigants.

CHARLES P. BURNS

QUALIFIED

Judge Charles P. Burns is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Burns was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1981 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1998. Judge Burns is assigned to a Felony Trial Call in the Criminal Division. Judge Burns has an excellent command of criminal law and possesses all the requisite qualifications for continued service as a Circuit Court Judge.

JOHN P. CALLAHAN, JR.

QUALIFIED

Judge John P. Callahan, Jr. is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Callahan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1998 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2009 and elected in 2010. Judge Callahan is currently assigned to the Law Division. Judge Callahan is well versed in the law and highly regarded by lawyers who appear before him for his legal knowledge and fine temperament.

BONITA COLEMAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Bonita Coleman is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Coleman was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1992 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Coleman is assigned the Domestic Relations Division and presides over a high volume call involving many pro se litigants. Judge Coleman is thoughtful, patient, and thorough in explaining the judicial process to pro se litigants. Judge Coleman is well regarded for her legal knowledge, judicial experience, and excellent demeanor.

ANN FINLEY COLLINS

QUALIFIED

Judge Ann Finley Collins is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Collins was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1985 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Collins is currently assigned to the 4th Municipal District where she presides over a wide variety of criminal matters including misdemeanors, felonies and bond hearings. Judge Finley is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law and judicial experience.

PAULA M. DALEO

QUALIFIED

Judge Paula M. Daleo is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Daleo was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1978 and has served as a judge since 2003. Judge Daleo has an excellent temperament and is a diligent and effective judge.

DEBORAH M. DOOLING

QUALIFIED

Judge Deborah M. Dooling is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Dooling was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1978 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992. Judge Dooling is well rounded in the law and has had previous assignments in the Criminal and Chancery Divisions. Judge Dooling is currently assigned to the Law Division where she presides over a variety of complex jury cases. Judge Dooling is hardworking and well regarded for her knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and fine temperament.

LAURENCE J. DUNFORD

QUALIFIED

Judge Laurence J. Dunford is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Dunford was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1971 and has served as a judge since 2003. Judge Dunford is an experienced judge and is well regarded for his legal knowledge, judicial ability, and fine demeanor.

TIMOTHY C. EVANS

QUALIFIED

Judge Timothy C. Evans is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Evans was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1969 and was elected to the bench in 1992. Before becoming Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2001, Judge Evans served as the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Division. Judge Evans has implemented many innovative programs to improve the judicial system and remains sharply focused on improving access to justice for all Cook County residents. Judge Evans received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence from the National Center for State Courts. Judge Evans possesses excellent leadership skills and is committed to improving the justice system.

DENISE FILAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Denise Filan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Filan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1989 and has served as a judge since 1998. Judge Filan is currently assigned to the Fifth Municipal District and principally presides over misdemeanor and traffic court matters. Judge Filan presides over a call with many pro se litigants and explains the judicial process to unrepresented parties who appear in her court. Judge Filan possesses a fine judicial temperament, knows the law, and is committed to the justice system.

NICHOLAS R. FORD

QUALIFIED

Judge Nicholas Ford is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Ford was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1988 and has served as a judge since 1998. Judge Ford is currently assigned to the Criminal Court and is well regarded for his knowledge of criminal law, judicial experience, and ability to effectively manage a high volume court.

DANIEL GALLAGHER

QUALIFIED

Judge Daniel Gallagher is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Gallagher was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Gallagher is currently assigned to a misdemeanor trial call in the First Municipal District. Judge Gallagher is committed to the justice system and is highly regarded for his knowledge of the law and judicial experience. However, Judge Gallagher needs to work on improving his temperament.

VINCENT M. GAUGHAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Vincent M. Gaughan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Gaughan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1972 and served as an Assistant Cook County Public Defender for 18 years. Judge Gaughan has served in the Criminal Court’s Felony Trial Division since his appointment to the bench in 1991. Judge Gaughan receives outstanding reviews from lawyers who have appeared before him for his knowledge of criminal law, judicial experience, and dedication to public service.

JOHN C. GRIFFIN**QUALIFIED**

Judge John C. Griffin is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Griffin was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1976 and was appointed to the bench in 2008 and elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Griffin is currently a Supervising Judge in the Law Division’s Individual Commercial Calendar Section. Judge Griffin is an effective administrator well regarded for his work ethic, knowledge of the law, and judicial experience.

SOPHIA H. HALL**QUALIFIED**

Judge Sophia H. Hall is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Hall was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1967 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1980. Judge Hall is well versed in both criminal and civil law and is currently assigned to the Chancery Division where she hears complex cases. Judge Hall also serves as the Administrative Presiding Judge of the Resource Section of the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Division. Judge Hall is highly regarded for her integrity, knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and fine temperament.

KAY M. HANLON**QUALIFIED**

Judge Kay M. Hanlon is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Hanlon was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1985 and has served as a judge since 2004. Judge Hanlon is assigned to the Law Division’s Tax and Miscellaneous Remedies Section. Judge Hanlon has an excellent demeanor and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, work ethic, and commitment to the justice system.

EDWARD HARMENING**QUALIFIED**

Judge Edward Harmening is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Harmening was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and has served on the bench since 2008. Judge Harmening is well versed in both civil and criminal law and is currently assigned to the Law Division’s Jury Section. Judge Harmening has presided over 24 trials and is well regarded for his integrity, knowledge of the law, fine demeanor, and effective/efficient management of his courtroom.

WILLIAM H. HOOKS**QUALIFIED**

Judge William H. Hooks is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Hooks was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1981 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2008 and elected in 2010. Judge Hooks is currently assigned to a felony trial court in the Criminal Division. Judge Hooks is deeply committed to the law and is highly regarded for his integrity, legal knowledge, and judicial experience.

ARNETTE HUBBARD

QUALIFIED

Judge Arnette Hubbard is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Hubbard was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1969 and was appointed an Associate Judge in 1997 and elected to the Circuit Court in 1998. Judge Hubbard is currently assigned to the Jury Section in the Law Division. Judge Hubbard knows the law, is thorough, thoughtful, and has an excellent temperament.

CHEYRL INGRAM

QUALIFIED

Judge Cheyrl D. Ingram is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Ingram was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1979 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992. Judge Ingram serves as the Presiding Judge of the Fourth Municipal District and is well regarded for her administrative skills, knowledge of the law, and excellent temperament.

RAYMOND JAGIELSKI

QUALIFIED

Judge Raymond Jagielski is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Jagielski was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1981 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992. Judge Jagielski serves as the Presiding Judge of the Fifth Municipal District and is well regarded for his work ethic, integrity, administrative skills, and knowledge of the law.

SHARON ODEN JOHNSON

QUALIFIED

Judge Sharon Oden Johnson is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Johnson was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1996 and has served as a judge since 2010. Judge Johnson is currently assigned to the Sixth Municipal District in Markham. Judge Johnson is well regarded for her knowledge of the law and fine temperament.

LINZEY D. JONES, JR.

QUALIFIED

Judge Linzey D. Jones, Jr. is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Jones was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1982 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Jones is currently assigned to a misdemeanor call in the Fifth Municipal District and is well regarded for his legal knowledge, excellent judicial demeanor, and ability to effectively manage a high volume court call.

THOMAS J. KELLEY

QUALIFIED

Judge Thomas J. Kelley is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Kelley was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1984 and was elected to the bench in 2004. Judge Kelley is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division and is well regarded for his work ethic, knowledge of the law, fine demeanor, diligence, and commitment to the justice system.

JOHN P. KIRBY

QUALIFIED

Judge John P. Kirby is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Kirby was admitted to practice law in 1983 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1998. Judge Kirby is currently assigned to the Law Jury Section and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, fine demeanor, work ethic, and dedication to public service.

GEARY W. KULL

QUALIFIED

Judge Geary W. Kull is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Kull was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1974 and was appointed to the bench in 2009 and elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Kull is currently assigned to the 4th Municipal District. Judge Kull manages his court efficiently and is highly regarded for his work ethic, knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and fine demeanor.

BERTINA LAMPKIN

QUALIFIED

Justice Bertina Lampkin is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Justice Lampkin was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1974 and served as an Associate Judge from 1987-1992; a Circuit Court Judge from 1992-2009; and was appointed to the Illinois Appellate Court in 2009. Justice Lampkin has exceptional trial experience and has made a flawless transition to the Illinois Appellate Court. Justice Lampkin is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law, work ethic, integrity, compassion, and dedication to the justice system.

DIANE JOAN LARSEN

QUALIFIED

Judge Diane Joan Larsen is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Larsen was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1983 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1998. Judge Larsen is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law, work ethic, and outstanding judicial temperament.

DANIEL J. LYNCH

QUALIFIED

Judge Daniel J. Lynch is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Lynch was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1988 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1998. Judge Lynch is currently assigned to the Law Division’s Jury Section. Judge Lynch has presided over many complex cases, some of which have been the subject of media attention. Judge Lynch is diligent and well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial ability, and dedication to the justice system.

THOMAS V. LYONS

QUALIFIED

Judge Thomas V. Lyons is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Lyons was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1987 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Lyons is assigned to the Law Division and presides over a variety of jury cases. Judge Lyons knows the law and is well regarded for his work ethic, judicial experience, and fine temperament.

TERENCE MACCARTHY

QUALIFIED

Judge Terence MacCarthy is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge MacCarthy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1990 and has served as a judge since 2010. Judge MacCarthy is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division in the Fourth Municipal District. Judge MacCarthy is well regarded for his legal knowledge, diligence, and fine temperament. He is dedicated to the law and to public service.

WILLIAM O. MAKI

QUALIFIED

Judge William O. Maki is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Maki was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1973 and has served for the past five years as the Presiding Judge of the Third Municipal District. Judge Maki has had many judicial assignments during his career and is well regarded for his legal knowledge, judicial experience, and administrative/supervisory skills.

DANIEL B. MALONE

QUALIFIED

Judge Daniel B. Malone is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Malone was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1986 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Malone is currently assigned to the Probate Division’s Adult Guardian Calendar. Judge Malone is well regarded for his knowledge of the law and judicial ability. He has an outstanding judicial temperament and is committed to the justice system.

LeROY K. MARTIN, JR

QUALIFIED

Judge LeRoy K. Martin, Jr. is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Martin was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1984 and has served as a judge since 2002. Judge Martin served in the Chancery Division until 2015 when he was appointed to serve as Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division. Judge Martin is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and excellent demeanor.

JAMES MCCARTHY

QUALIFIED

Judge James McCarthy is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge McCarthy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1978 and has served as a judge since 1996. Judge McCarthy is currently assigned to the Law Division’s Jury Section and is well regarded for his excellent temperament, legal knowledge, and judicial ability.

CLARE McWILLIAMS**QUALIFIED**

Judge Clare McWilliams is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge McWilliams was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1988 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2004. Judge McWilliams is currently assigned to the Jury Section in the Law Division. Judge McWilliams has presided over many complex cases and is highly regarded for her integrity, work ethic, excellent demeanor, and knowledge of the law.

MARY MIKVA**QUALIFIED**

Judge Mary Mikva is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Mikva was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1980 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 2004. Judge Mikva is well rounded in civil and criminal law and is currently serving by appointment on the Illinois Appellate Court. Judge Mikva is hardworking, diligent, and well respected for her legal knowledge and excellent demeanor.

RAYMOND MITCHELL**QUALIFIED**

Judge Raymond Mitchell is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Mitchell was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1993 and became a judge in 2008. Since 2011, Judge Mitchell has served in the Law Division’s Individual Commercial Calendar Section. Judge Mitchell is highly regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and fine demeanor.

ALLEN F. MURPHY**QUALIFIED**

Judge Allen F. Murphy is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Murphy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1991 and was appointed to the bench in 2008 and elected to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Murphy is currently assigned to the Sixth Municipal District. Judge Murphy is hardworking and highly regarded for his knowledge of the law, excellent temperament and demeanor, and commitment to the justice system.

PATRICK T. MURPHY**QUALIFIED**

Judge Patrick T. Murphy is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Murphy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1964 and served as Cook County’s Public Guardian for 26 years. Judge Murphy has served on the bench since 2004 and is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division. Judge Murphy is hardworking and well regarded for his knowledge of the law, excellent temperament, diligence, fairness, and commitment to the justice system.

TIMOTHY P. MURPHY**QUALIFIED**

Judge Timothy P. Murphy is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Murphy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1984 and has served as a judge since 2004. Judge Murphy is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division and is highly regarded for his legal knowledge, judicial experience, and fine temperament.

KATHLEEN M. PANTLE

QUALIFIED

Judge Kathleen M. Pantle is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Pantle was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1982 and was elected to the bench in 1998. Judge Pantle is currently assigned to the Chancery Division and is well regarded for her work ethic, diligence, knowledge of the law, judicial experience, excellent temperament, and effective/efficient management of her courtroom.

DANIEL J. PIERCE

QUALIFIED

Judge Daniel J. Pierce is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Pierce was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1972 and became a judge in 2008. Judge Pierce is currently assigned to the Illinois Appellate Court and is highly regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, and excellent demeanor.

SANDRA RAMOS

QUALIFIED

Judge Sandra Ramos is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Ramos was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1986 and was elected to the bench in 2010. Judge Ramos is currently assigned to a felony call in the First Municipal District and is well regarded for her work ethic, efficiency in managing her court call, and commitment to the justice system.

JAMES RYAN

QUALIFIED

Judge James Ryan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Ryan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1992. Before being elected to the Circuit Court in 2004, Judge Ryan served as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney from 1993-1995 and as Director of Operations for the Cook County Sheriff from 1995-2004. Judge Ryan is currently assigned to the First Municipal Division where he presides over civil jury trials. Judge Ryan has worked to improve his temperament and possesses the requisite qualifications to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

KEVIN M. SHEEHAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Kevin M. Sheehan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Sheehan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1983 and served as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney for 15 years before becoming a judge in 1998. Since 2005, Judge Sheehan has served as a Felony Trial Judge in the Criminal Court. Judge Sheehan has an excellent temperament and is well regarded for his knowledge of criminal law, work ethic, and outstanding temperament.

IRWIN J. SOLGANICK

QUALIFIED

Judge Irwin J. Solganick is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Solganick was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1972 and has served as a judge since 1986. Judge Solganick is currently assigned to the Law Jury Section of the Law Division and is highly regarded for his work ethic, diligence, knowledge of the law, and extensive judicial experience.

SHARON M. SULLIVAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Sharon M. Sullivan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Sullivan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1980 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992. Judge Sullivan is well versed in the law and is currently serving as Acting Presiding Judge of the County Division. Judge Sullivan is hard working and well regarded for her administrative skills, legal knowledge, judicial experience, and fine demeanor.

SUSAN KENNEDY SULLIVAN

QUALIFIED

Judge Susan Kennedy Sullivan is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Kennedy Sullivan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and concentrated her practice in elder law and mental health law. Judge Kennedy Sullivan was elected a Circuit Court Judge in 2010 and is currently assigned to the Elder Law Division. Judge Kennedy Sullivan is well respected for her knowledge of the law, judicial experience, integrity, and excellent temperament.

JOHN D. TURNER, JR.

QUALIFIED

Judge John D. Turner is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Turner was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1984 and was appointed to the bench in 1999. Judge Turner is currently assigned to the Sixth Municipal District and hears a variety of misdemeanor, traffic and ordinance violation cases. Judge Turner manages a high volume court call and is well regarded for his excellent judicial demeanor and temperament.

EDWARD WASHINGTON II

QUALIFIED

Judge Edward Washington II is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Washington was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1983 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2002. Judge Washington is assigned to a Jury Call in the Law Division and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial experience, work ethic, and fine judicial temperament.

ALEXANDER P. WHITE

QUALIFIED

Judge Alexander P. White is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge White was admitted to practice law in 1964 and was elected to the Circuit Court in 1986. Judge White is a supervising judge in the Tax & Miscellaneous Remedies Section in the Law Division. Judge White is well regarded for his work ethic, judicial experience, and detailed knowledge of the law.

THADDEUS L. WILSON

QUALIFIED

Judge Thaddeus L. Wilson is “Qualified” for retention as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Wilson was admitted to practice law in 1994 and has served as a judge since 2007. Judge Wilson is currently assigned to the Criminal Division. Judge Wilson is hardworking and well regarded for his extensive knowledge of the law, judicial experience, fine temperament, efficient/effective management of his courtroom, and dedication to improving the criminal justice system.

**THE CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION FINDINGS
FOR ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT CANDIDATES**

On September 19, 2016, The Chicago Bar Association released its findings for the candidates running to fill the Epstein and Quinn vacancies on the Illinois Appellate Court in the November 8, 2016 general election. The JEC has found both of those candidates **“Highly Qualified.”**

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR EACH APPELLATE COURT CANDIDATE.

FOR JUDGE OF THE ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT (Epstein)

EILEEN O'NEILL BURKE (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Judge Eileen O'Neill Burke is "Highly Qualified" for the office of Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. Judge Burke was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1990. Judge Burke was elected a Circuit Court Judge in 2008 and is currently assigned to the Law Division's Commercial Calendar. Judge Burke is highly regarded for her knowledge of civil, criminal and appellate law, work ethic, diligence, and outstanding demeanor and temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT (Quinn)

BERTINA E. LAMPKIN (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Justice Bertina Lampkin is "Highly Qualified" for the office of Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. Justice Lampkin was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1974 and served as an Associate Judge from 1987-1992; a Circuit Court Judge from 1992-2009; and was appointed to the Illinois Appellate Court in 2009. Justice Lampkin has exceptional trial experience and has made a flawless transition to the Illinois Appellate Court. Justice Lampkin is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law, work ethic, integrity, compassion, and dedication to the justice system.

**THE CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION FINDINGS FOR
COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT AND SUBCIRCUIT COURT VACANCIES**

On September 19, 2016, The Chicago Bar Association released the results of independent screenings for the judicial candidates seeking Cook County Circuit Court positions in the November 8, 2016 general election.

Of the 39 candidates seeking election for Circuit Court positions, 34 were screened by the Judicial Evaluation Committee of the CBA. The JEC has found 6 of those candidates “Highly Qualified,” **25 “Qualified” and 8 “Not Recommended.” Of the 8 candidates found “Not Recommended,” 4 candidates declined to participate in the JEC screening process and were found automatically “Not Recommended” according to JEC governing bylaws, 1 candidate was found “Not Recommended” pursuant to the rules of the Judicial Evaluation Committee because he was a member of the committee at the time he decided to run for judicial office.

** Judge Maryam Ahmad is a write in candidate in the 1st Sub Circuit, Hopkins vacancy.

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR EACH CIRCUIT AND SUBCIRCUIT COURT CANDIDATE.

FINDINGS FOR COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT VACANCIES

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Biebel, Jr.)

JOHN FITZGERALD LYKE, JR.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Judge John F. Lyke, Jr. is "Highly Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Lyke was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2015. Judge Lyke is currently assigned to the First Municipal District Traffic Court and also serves in the five suburban municipal districts hearing misdemeanor and felony cases. Judge Lyke is well regarded for his knowledge of criminal law and judicial demeanor.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Elrod)

ROSSANA PATRICIA FERNANDEZ (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Rossana Fernandez is "Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Fernandez was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1997. Before her appointment to the Circuit Court in 2015, Judge Fernandez had extensive civil litigation experience that included both bench and jury trials. Judge Fernandez receives high marks from lawyers for her knowledge of the law, work ethic, fine temperament and demeanor.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Hogan)

ALISON C. CONLON (D)

QUALIFIED

Alison Conlon is "Qualified" to serve as a Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Conlon was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2000. Ms. Conlon clerked for a U.S. District Court Judge for one year and served as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for one year before entering private practice. Ms. Conlon is currently a litigation partner in a large law firm. Ms. Conlon is highly regarded for her integrity, legal knowledge, trial skills, and excellent demeanor. Ms. Conlon is also involved in several pro bono and public interest organizations. Ms. Conlon will be a credit to the bench.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Howlett, Jr.)

ALEKSANDRA “ALEX” GILLESPIE (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Aleksandra Gillespie is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Gillespie was admitted to practice law in 1993 and served as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney before her appointment to the Circuit Court in 2014. Judge Gillespie is currently assigned to the First Municipal Division where her assignments have included Marriage Court, Branch Courts and Traffic Court. As a judge, she hears DUI trials, suspended license cases, misdemeanors, felony preliminary hearings and bond cases. Judge Gillespie efficiently manages a high volume court call and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, fine temperament, and fairness.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Johnson)

CAROLYN J. GALLAGHER (D)

QUALIFIED

Carolyn Joan Gallagher is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Gallagher was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1982 and is currently a solo practitioner concentrating in real estate, litigation, and financial institution law. Ms. Gallagher has litigation and extensive appellate practice experience. Ms. Gallagher is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, legal experience, and fine temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Karnezis)

MARY KATHLEEN MCHUGH (D)

QUALIFIED

Mary Kathleen McHugh is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. McHugh was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1993 and is currently a litigation partner in a trial firm. Ms. McHugh has extensive trial experience in a wide array of cases in the Law, Chancery and Commercial Divisions. Ms. McHugh is well regarded by her peers for her knowledge of the law, legal ability, and excellent demeanor.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Love)

BRENDAN A. O'BRIEN (D)

QUALIFIED

Brendan A. O'Brien is "Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. O'Brien was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1996 and is a partner in a large defense firm concentrating in medical malpractice and construction law cases. Mr. O'Brien has extensive trial experience and is highly regarded by his peers for his knowledge of the law, excellent litigation skills, and outstanding demeanor and temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (O'Brien)

MAUREEN O'DONOGHUE HANNON (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Maureen O'Donoghue Hannon is "Highly Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Hannon was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1991 and has extensive civil trial experience at the federal and state levels. Ms. Hannon has tried many complex cases and is highly regarded for her knowledge of the law and legal ability.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Palmer)

SUSANA L. ORTIZ (D)

QUALIFIED

Susana L. Ortiz is "Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Ortiz was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2001 and for the past 13 years has worked as a staff attorney at the law offices of Chicago-Kent College of Law. Ms. Ortiz has extensive criminal trial experience and is well regarded by her peers for her knowledge of the law, legal ability, and outstanding demeanor and temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Ruscitti Grussel)

DANIEL PATRICK DUFFY (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Daniel P. Duffy is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Duffy was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1995 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. He sits in the Municipal Division hearing high volume collection and tort cases. Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Duffy had a distinguished career as a civil litigator. He also was a hearing officer for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and a member of the ARDC Review Board. Apart from his legal and judicial career, he was involved as a personal guarantor in a failed business loan which was extensively litigated and the subject of negative publicity. He stated the litigation spun out of control and he has learned a lot from that difficult experience.

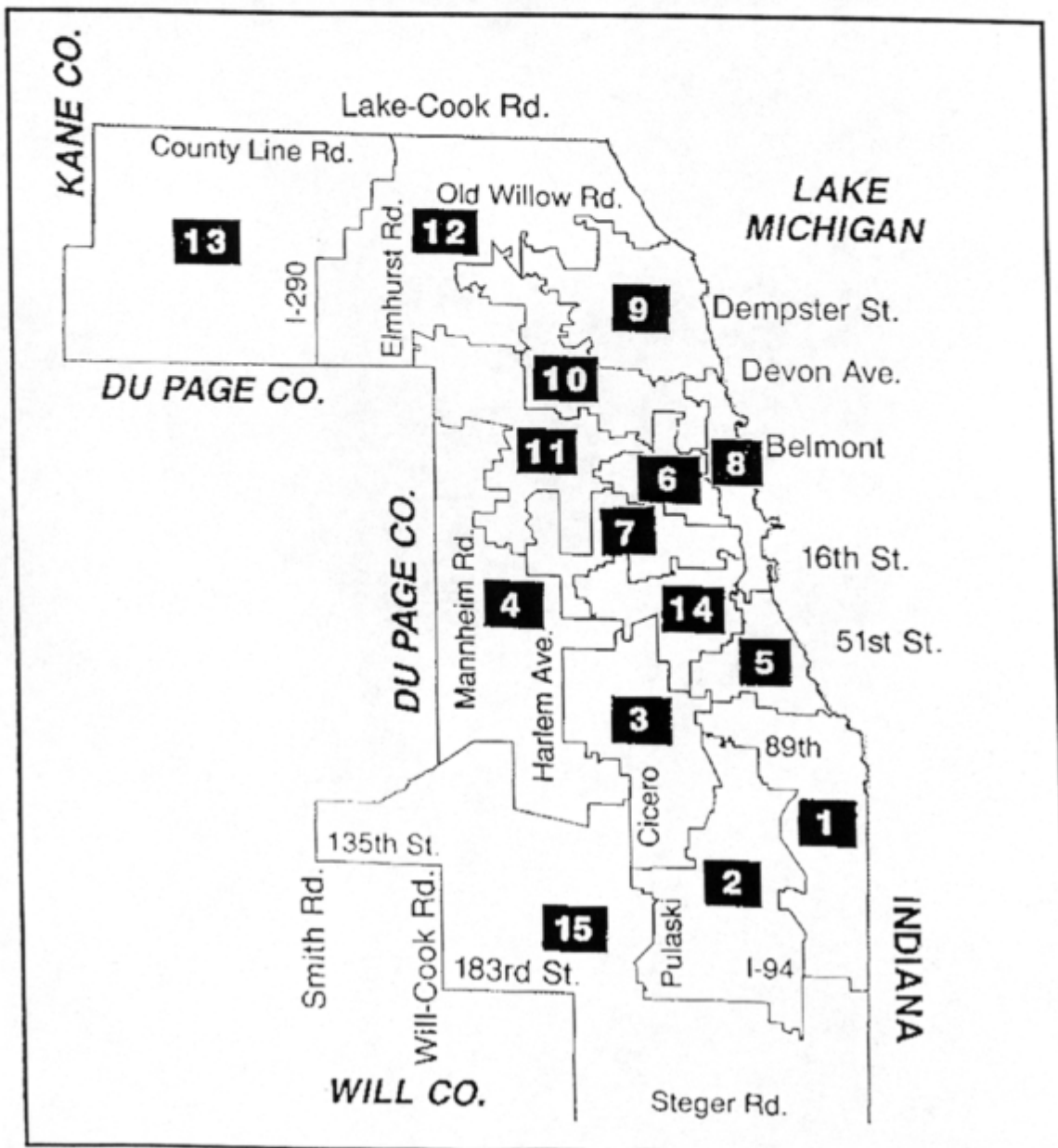
FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Walsh)

PATRICK JOSEPH POWERS (D)

QUALIFIED

Patrick J. Powers is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Powers was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1987 and is currently a sole practitioner concentrating in domestic relations and real estate matters. Mr. Powers has experience in litigation and non-litigation matters and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, legal ability, and excellent temperament.

COOK COUNTY JUDICIAL DISTRICTS



FINDINGS FOR COOK COUNTY SUBCIRCUIT COURT VACANCIES

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 1 - Brim)

JESSE OUTLAW (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Jesse Outlaw declined to participate in the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) screening process and, therefore, according to The Chicago Bar Association's governing resolution for the JEC, is automatically found NOT RECOMMENDED.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 1 - Hopkins)

RHONDA CRAWFORD (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Rhonda Crawford declined to participate in the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) screening process and, therefore, according to The Chicago Bar Association's governing resolution for the JEC, is automatically found NOT RECOMMENDED.

MARYAM AHMAD (D) Write In Candidate

QUALIFIED

Maryam Ahmad is "Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Ahmad was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2000 and was engaged in private practice for several years before becoming an Assistant Cook County Public Defender in 2004. Ms. Ahmad served as a trial attorney with the Cook County Public Defender's office until 2007 when she became an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney. Ms. Ahmad is currently assigned to the Felony Trial Division at the George Leighton Criminal Court. Ms Ahmad is well regarded by her peers and adversaries for her knowledge of the law, excellent legal ability and trial skills, work ethic, compassion, and commitment to public service.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 2 - Savage)

D. RENEE JACKSON (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

D. Renee Jackson declined to participate in the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) screening process and, therefore, according to The Chicago Bar Association's governing resolution for the JEC, is automatically found NOT RECOMMENDED.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 4 - Kunkle)

EDWARD J. KING

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Judge Edward J. King is “Highly Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge King was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1981 and had extensive practice experience before his appointment to the bench in 2014. Judge King’s experience includes private practice and service as an Assistant Chicago Corporation Counsel and as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. Judge King is currently assigned to Traffic Court and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, judicial ability, dedication to justice, and outstanding temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 5 – Eadie-Daniels)

LEONARD MURRAY (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Leonard Murray is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Murray was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1974 and was appointed an Associate Judge in 2007. Judge Murray presides over a high volume courtroom and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, integrity, good management skills, judicial demeanor, and fine temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 5 - Stuart)

FREDDRENNA M. LYLE (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Freddrenna Lyle is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Lyle was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1980 and was appointed to the Circuit Court in December 2011. Judge Lyle has been assigned to a number of high volume courtrooms and has efficiently and effectively managed these calls. Judge Lyle has adapted well to her assignments and is qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 5 - Williams)

DARYL JONES (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Because the candidate was an active member of the Judicial Evaluation Committee at the beginning of this election year, the committee is required to automatically find him “NOT RECOMMENDED”.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 6 – Ponce De Leon)

EULALIA “EVIE” DE LA ROSA (D)

QUALIFIED

Eulalia De La Rosa is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. De La Rosa was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2004 and is currently serving as an Assistant Cook County Public Defender in the Felony Trial Division. Ms. De La Rosa has extensive trial experience and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, excellent demeanor, and commitment to public service.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 6 – Santiago)

RICHARD C. COOKE (D)

QUALIFIED

Richard C. Cooke is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Cooke was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1992 and is a solo practitioner concentrating in real estate law, personal injury, and civil Litigation. Mr. Cooke is articulate and well regarded for his knowledge of the law, dedication, and fairness.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 6A)

ANNA LOFTUS (D)

QUALIFIED

Anna Maria Loftus is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Loftus was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1998 and concentrates her practice in medical malpractice defense. Ms. Loftus has a fine demeanor and possesses the requisite legal knowledge and experience to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 7 - Burrell)

MARIANNE JACKSON (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Marianne Jackson is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Jackson was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1973 and was appointed an Associate Judge in 1997. Judge Jackson is currently assigned to the Juvenile Justice Division’s Child Protection Department. Judge Jackson effectively manages her courtroom and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law and outstanding demeanor and temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 7 – Rivkin-Carothers)

PATRICIA “PAT” S. SPRATT (D)

QUALIFIED

Patricia S. Spratt is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Spratt was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1991 and concentrates her practice in business and commercial litigation and green initiative programs. Ms. Spratt is well regarded by her peers and by the judges before whom she has appeared. Throughout her career, Ms. Spratt has been actively involved in public service work. Ms. Spratt has a fine temperament and possesses the depth and breadth of legal knowledge and experience to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 9 - Berman)

JERRY ESRIG (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Jerry A. Esrig is “Highly Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Esrig was admitted to practice law in 1978 and has been in private practice for 35 years. Mr. Esrig has extensive experience in personal injury, commercial, and construction litigation. Mr. Esrig is well regarded by his peers and the judges he has appeared before for his knowledge of the law and legal ability. Mr. Esrig has served as an adjunct professor and NITA instructor and is involved in various civic activities.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 10 – Howard)

EVE MARIE REILLY (D)

QUALIFIED

Eve Marie Reilly is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Reilly was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1997 and has served as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney for the past 17 years. Ms. Reilly has a broad range of practice experience that includes many bench trials, several jury trials, and extensive appellate experience. Ms. Reilly has argued cases in both the Illinois Appellate and Illinois Supreme Courts. Ms. Reilly has good experience and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, extensive appellate experience, and fine temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 11 - Kelly)

CATHERINE ANN SCHNEIDER (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Catherine Ann Schneider is “Not Recommended” for the office of Associate Judge. Ms. Schneider was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and is currently the Supervising Attorney for the Coordinated Advice and Referral Program for Legal Services. Prior to her current position, Ms. Schneider had varied experience in private practice and in public service law. While Ms. Schneider has an outstanding record of public service work, at this stage of her career she lacks the depth and breadth of court experience to serve as an Associate Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 11 - ZWICK)

WILLIAM B. SULLIVAN (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge William B. Sullivan is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Sullivan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1992 and was engaged in the solo practice of law for 22 years before his appointment in 2015 to the Circuit Court. Judge Sullivan is currently assigned to the First Municipal Division of the Circuit Court and is well regarded for his work ethic, fine temperament, and knowledge of the law.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 12 – Kazmierski)

MARGUERITE ANNE QUINN (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Judge Margarite Quinn is “Highly Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Quinn was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1986 and was appointed an Associate Judge in 2007. Judge Quinn is currently assigned to the Second Municipal District and presides over domestic violence and criminal cases. Judge Quinn has managed both civil and criminal trial calls and is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, judicial ability, and fine temperament.

THOMAS W. FLANNIGAN (R)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Thomas W. Flannigan is “Not Recommended” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Flannigan was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1983 and is currently engaged in private practice concentrating in civil litigation matters. While Mr. Flannigan has varied court experience, at this stage of his career he does not possess the depth and breadth of legal experience to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 12 - Mathein)

JANET CRONIN MAHONEY (D)

QUALIFIED

Janet C. Mahoney is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Mahoney was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1987 and serves as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney assigned to the Criminal Appeals Division. Ms. Mahoney has extensive appellate practice experience and is highly regarded by her peers for her knowledge of the law and excellent demeanor.

JAMES LEONARD ALLEGRETTI (R)

QUALIFIED

James L. Allegretti is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Allegretti was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1978 and is engaged in private practice concentrating in personal injury, workers’ compensation, criminal, and traffic reinstatement hearings. Mr. Allegretti is well rounded in the law and possesses the requisite legal knowledge and experience to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 12 - Tristano)

CARRIE HAMILTON (D)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

Carrie E. Hamilton is “Highly Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Hamilton was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1996 and has served as Assistant United States Attorney for the past 13 years. Ms. Hamilton is currently serving as a Deputy Chief in the Public Corruption and Organized Crime Section of the U.S. Attorney’s office. Ms. Hamilton has tried a number of complex jury cases and is highly regarded for her integrity, knowledge of the law, legal ability and outstanding demeanor and temperament.

DAVID STUDENROTH (R)

QUALIFIED

David Studenroth is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Studenroth was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1987 and is currently engaged in private practice concentrating in criminal matters. Mr. Studenroth has extensive trial experience and is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, legal ability, diligence, and excellent temperament.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 12A)

JAMES EDWARD HANLON, JR. (D)

QUALIFIED

James Edward Hanlon, Jr. is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Hanlon was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1984 and worked as an associate and partner at a large Chicago law firm concentrating in commercial litigation. In 2000, Mr. Hanlon became an equity partner at another large firm where he worked until 2007. From 2007-2009, Mr. Hanlon was engaged in the solo practice of law concentrating in commercial litigation and criminal misdemeanor matters. In 2009, Mr. Hanlon became Director of Client Services for Novus Law, LLC, where his duties included e-discovery, document review, and management analysis. Mr. Hanlon is well rounded in the practice of law and has considerable experience in complex commercial litigation matters. Mr. Hanlon has a fine temperament and possesses all the requisite qualifications to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

STEVEN A. KOZICKI (R)

QUALIFIED

Steven A. Kozicki is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Kozicki was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1985 and is currently engaged in private practice concentrating primarily in criminal defense work. Mr. Kozicki has extensive jury and non-jury trial experience and is well regarded for his legal knowledge, ability, and thoughtful demeanor.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 13 – Fecarotta, Jr.)

KETKI “KAY” STEFFEN (D)

QUALIFIED

Judge Ketki Shroff Steffen is “Qualified” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Judge Steffen was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1991 and was first appointed to the Circuit Court in 2010. Judge Steffen served on the bench for two years and presided over traffic, civil and criminal domestic violence cases. From 2013 to November 2015, she served as an Administrative Law Judge Arbitrator for the Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission. Judge Steffen was reappointed to the Circuit Court in 2015 and is currently assigned to the First Municipal District where she presides over forcible detainer cases. Judge Steffen is diligent and highly regarded her knowledge of the law, judicial ability and integrity.

KEVIN MICHAEL O’DONNELL (R)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Kevin M. O’Donnell is “Not Recommended” for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. O’Donnell was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1988 and has been a solo practitioner concentrating in real estate, wills, trusts and probate matters. While Mr. O’Donnell has practiced law for 28 years, his limited court experience would make it difficult for him to effectively serve as a judge.

FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (Subcircuit 14 - MURPHY)

MATTHEW LINK (D)

NOT RECOMMENDED

Matthew Link declined to participate in the Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) screening process and, therefore, according to The Chicago Bar Association's governing resolution for the JEC, is automatically found NOT RECOMMENDED.



THE
CHICAGO
BAR
ASSOCIATION

Provided As A Public Service
Of The Chicago Bar Association

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Chicago, IL 60604
312-554-2000

*Paid for by The Chicago Bar Association 2016 Judicial Evaluation Fund.
A copy of the CBA Green Guide is on file with the State Board of Elections.*