



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

Date of Release: 5/06/08
Point of Contact: Christopher C. Starck
Diane Flory
Telephone: 847.377.4500
847.377.3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

Acting Chief Judge Christopher C. Starck announced today that the 19th Judicial Circuit would begin a Jury Stress Program. The program is designed to assist jurors who have suffered a severe emotional reaction following their service on jury duty. The program is based on similar programs from South Dakota and Kane County, Illinois.

Participation in the Jury Stress Program for the 19th Judicial Circuit is voluntary and involves no cost to the juror. Jurors seeking assistance will contact the Jury Commission who will in turn contact a counselor. Counselors from the Psychological Services Division of the 19th Judicial Circuit have been trained in critical incident debriefing and will provide a one-time debriefing session.

No intervention will occur until after the juror's discharge from service. If a counselor determines that one session is not sufficient to resolve the stress reaction, the counselor will provide the juror with referral information for continued counseling in the community.

Starck commented "This program will help to insure that citizens do not experience continuing ill effects following their necessary public service as jurors".

###

<http://19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us>