



## News Release

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Waukegan, Illinois

### 21 CANDIDATES APPLY FOR TWO LAKE COUNTY ASSOCIATE JUDGE POSITIONS

The Administrative Office of Illinois Courts has notified Chief Judge Daniel B. Shanes that 21 local attorneys have submitted applications for two upcoming Associate Judge vacancies in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. These vacancies result from the impending retirements of Associate Judge Raymond D. Collins and Associate Judge Charles D. Johnson, effective July 12, 2024.

The applicants include Caryn A. Barone of Gurnee, Kevin J. Berrill of Lake Forest, James C. Bertucci of Libertyville, Shyama P. Chauhan of Lake Forest, Gabriel J. Conroe of Highland Park, Matthew J. DeMartini of Antioch, Roderick A. Drobinski of Wauconda, Saul M. Ferris of Wadsworth, Eric J. Kalata of Lindenhurst, Karen G. Levi of Highwood, Craig M. Mandell of Highland Park, Deborah J. Menas of Libertyville, Sari W. Montgomery of Riverwoods, Terry A. Mueller of Lake Forest, Daniel Naranjo of Barrington, Gretchen A. Neddenriep of Third Lake, Stephen J. Rice of Libertyville, Lauren K. Rothenberg of Deerfield, David M. Spada of Wauconda, Mary E. Stanton of Grayslake, and Donald R. Tyer of Long Grove.

Over the coming weeks, the candidates will be interviewed by the circuit judges and evaluated by members of the Lake County Bar Association's Judicial Selection and Retention Committee. The Bar Association will poll its membership on all applicants' qualifications. This transparent process also allows for public comment, which must be submitted in writing to The Office of the Chief Judge, Lake County Courthouse, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, IL 60085-4359. Letters will be accepted until May 31, 2024.

After the comprehensive review process, the nominating committee of circuit judges will select the names of four candidates to be on the ballot. All circuit judges will receive individual ballots with the finalists' names, and they will submit their ballots to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts in Springfield. The Administrative Office will tally the votes; Chief Judge Shanes will then be advised of the two candidates who receive the majority of votes. Those candidates will ultimately be installed as Associate Judges with the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit.

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