



News Release

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

Date of Release: July 1, 2024
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

CONROE AND DEMARTINI NAMED ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Chief Judge Daniel B. Shanes is pleased to announce that Gabriel J. Conroe of Highland Park and Matthew J. DeMartini of Antioch received the majority of votes from the Circuit Judges of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit and will be installed as Associate Judges. These positions were available due to the upcoming retirements of the Honorable Raymond D. Collins and the Honorable Charles D. Johnson, who will be stepping down from the bench on July 12, 2024, after nearly 20 years of dedicated service to the residents of Lake County.

"Mr. Conroe and Mr. DeMartini will be excellent additions to the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. They will bring considerable skill and understanding to their new roles with extensive experience, an abundant sense of fairness, and a commitment to justice. I congratulate them on their appointments and look forward to Mr. Conroe and Mr. DeMartini joining us as Associate Judges in Lake County," said Chief Judge Shanes.

Mr. Conroe received his Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science and Law from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001. In 2006, he earned his Juris Doctor from Chicago Kent College of Law. He was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2006 and is a member of the Illinois Public Defender Association and the Lake County Bar Association. Mr. Conroe has been with the Lake County Public Defender's Office since 2006 and serves as a Principal Assistant Public Defender.

"I am honored and humbled to receive this appointment. I want to express my gratitude to the many mentors who have helped prepare me as a public servant," said Mr. Conroe.

Mr. DeMartini received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Marquette University in 1999. In 2002, he earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Illinois Chicago John Marshall Law School. He was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 2002 and is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association, the Justinian Society, and the Lake County Bar Association. Mr. DeMartini previously served as an Assistant State's Attorney with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, an associate at the Law Office of Rudolph F. Magna of Gurnee, an associate at the Law Office of Scott Gartner of Antioch, and is currently the owner of DeMartini Legal, Inc. of Antioch.

"I am humbled by and thankful for this appointment and excited to take on the challenges it brings," said Mr. DeMartini.

Chief Judge Shanes will administer the oaths of office to Mr. Conroe and Mr. DeMartini.

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