



## News Release

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

Date of Release: 7-5-17  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Waukegan, Illinois

### LAKE COUNTY JUDGES SERVE ILLINOIS JUDGES ORGANIZATIONS

Four judges from the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit serve the Illinois Judges Association, a professional association for judges in Illinois. Circuit Judge Margaret J. Mullen was elected to serve as 2d Vice-President of the Illinois Judges Association at the annual meeting held on June 2, 2017 at Kent Chicago College of Law in Chicago. 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Jorge Ortiz serves as a member of the IJA Board of Directors, along with Circuit Judge Christen L. Bishop and Associate Judge Elizabeth M. Rochford.

Chief Judge Ortiz and Judge Rochford were also elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Judges Foundation, a charitable organization advancing the rule of law, the legal profession, and the administration of justice.

Chief Judge Ortiz was sworn as Chief Judge in 2016, and is the first Hispanic Chief Judge in Illinois' state court history. He received the Founders' Award from the Illinois Judges Foundation in 2016. Judge Mullen has been on the bench for over 25 years, served as Chief Judge in 2002-2004, and was President of the Illinois Judges Foundation in 2011-2012. Judge Bishop was named Circuit Judge in 2016, after serving as an Associate Judge since 2012. She co-founded the Lake County Law Related Education Initiative. Judge Rochford, appointed Associate Judge in 2012, is also a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Board of Governors, and its Assembly. She is also a past President of the Lake County Bar Association.

The Illinois Judges Association also installed new officers for 2017-18 at the annual meeting. They are: President, John Coady; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, James E. Snyder; 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Diane M. Shelley; Secretary, Barbara Crowder; and Treasurer, Eileen O'Neill Burke.

The Illinois Judges Association is composed of 1,250 active and retired Illinois State Court Judges. The IJA was founded in 1971 and provides education and services to its members and information about court operations to the public. There are approximately 50 members of the Board of Directors from all across the State of Illinois.

For more information about the Illinois Judges Association, see [www.ija.org](http://www.ija.org).

For more information about the Illinois Judges Foundation, see <http://www.ijafoundation.org/>

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[www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us](http://www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us)

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