



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

JUDGES APPOINTED TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

As with past years, several Lake County judges have been appointed as members and officers of various legal and judicial councils and committees in Illinois, including positions with the Illinois State Bar Association ("ISBA"), the Lake County Bar Association ("LCBA", the Illinois Judges Association ("IJA") and the Illinois Judges Foundation ("IJF").

Lake County Chief Judge Jay Ukena said that Lake County judges have a long history of being very active in community organizations. "The judges of the 19th Judicial Circuit believe that it is vitally important that the judges be involved in their community, and that includes the legal community," Judge Ukena said. "Our judges strive, both on and off the bench, to make the legal system and the judiciary the best that it can be. Their participation and leadership in these organizations is beneficial to the judges and the legal community alike".

"The Illinois State Bar Association strives to improve the legal system here in Illinois," added James F. McCluskey, ISBA President, "and our judges believe it is vitally important to give back to the community by adding their expertise to these councils and committees."

The ISBA and LCBA provide professional services and education to Illinois lawyers and to the public. The IJA supports judicial excellence and professional development, including judicial educations. The IJF is a philanthropic organization comprised of current and retired judges, funding education, civic, and scholarship projects.

Committees and councils have the responsibility for specific programs and activities in a variety of areas, including professional ethics, continuing legal education and legislative services.

"It is an honor to serve on these councils and committees," said Lake County Associate Judge Elizabeth Rochford, who has been appointed to various positions within these organizations. "As judges, we work for the people and endeavor to make the justice system here in Illinois the best in the nation. These organizations work toward that same end."

Below is a list of the Lake County judges who have been appointed to serve on these committees and councils for 2018-2019:

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Judge Elizabeth Rochford

Member, IJA Board of Directors
Co-Chair, IJA Page it Forward Literacy Program
Co-Editor, IJA newsletter, *The Gavel*
Chair, IJF Grant Committee
Member, IJF Board of Directors
Member, IJF Grant Committee
Member, ISBA Board of Governors
Member, ISBA Women and the Law Committee
Member, ISBA Mental Health Committee
Member, ISBA Judicial Advisory Polls Committee
Member, LCBA Community Outreach Committee

Judge Christopher Stride

Member, Illinois Supreme Court Committee for Justice and Mental Health.

Judge Christy Bishop

Member, IJA Board of Directors
Member, LCBA Board of Directors

Judge Daniel Shanes

Member, Illinois Judicial College Board of Trustees
Member, Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions

Judge Jorge Ortiz

Member, Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice
Member, IJA Executive Committee
Member, IJF Executive Committee and Board of Directors

Judge Mark Levitt

Vice-Chair, Illinois Supreme Court Circuit Clerk Committee of the Illinois Judicial College

Judge Michael Betar

Member, IJF Board of Directors

Judge Michael Fusz

Member, LCBA monthly journal, *The Docket*, Editorial Board

Judge Charles Johnson

Member, LCBA monthly journal, *The Docket*, Editorial Board

Judge James Simonian

Member, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Benchbook on DUI/Traffic
Member, LCBA monthly journal, *The Docket*, Editorial Board

Judge Ari Fisz

Chair, LCBA Committee on Continuing Legal Education

Judge Jacquelyn Melius

Co-Chair, LCBA Civil Law Committee

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