



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

REGINALD C. MATHEWS TAKES OATH OF OFFICE FOR CIRCUIT JUDGE

"It is my honor and my pleasure to swear in such a talented Jurist," said Justice Michael J. Burke. Illinois Supreme Court Justice Burke administered the Circuit Judge Oath of Office to Reginald C. Mathews for the 1st Subcircuit of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit on March 2, 2020; his term will conclude on December 5, 2022. Mathews will fill the position previously held by Judge Jay W. Ukena, who retired from his post as Circuit Judge on January 30, 2020. To maintain his position as Circuit Judge after December 5, 2022, Mathews must be nominated in the 1st Subcircuit in the March 2022 primary and elected in the November 2022 general election.

"I would like to thank the Illinois Supreme Court for making the unanimous decision to appoint me to the Office of Circuit Judge. I would like to thank Justice Robert Thomas for the nomination, Appellate Court Justice Bridges for the continued mentorship, and Chief Judge Diane Winter and my fellow judges here at the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit for your support and guidance. Thank you to our newly appointed Illinois Supreme Court Justice Michael Burke for taking the time to administer my Oath of Office. I am guided by the law and my faith, and I am committed to justice," said Judge Mathews.

Mathews attended Western Illinois University where he received his Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement Administration. He later earned his Juris Doctor from Louisiana State University and was then admitted to practice law in Illinois in November of 2001. Before being appointed Associate Judge in June of 2018, Mathews was the Division Chief of the Gang and Narcotics Division with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office.

"Since his appointment as Associate Judge in 2018, Judge Mathews has dedicated himself to serving the citizens of Lake County through his legal expertise and fairness combined with his unwavering respect for the judicial system. I am confident that he will be an excellent Circuit Judge. I look forward to working with Judge Mathews in the years to come," stated Chief Judge Winter.

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