



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

FRED FOREMAN
ELECTED CHIEF JUDGE

Fred Foreman, currently the Acting Chief Judge and former Presiding Judge of the Felony Division, has recently been named the Chief Judge of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. His new title and term of office will become effective as of May 1, 2012, and he will serve as the chief judge for a term of one year. Foreman was elected unanimously by the other twelve circuit judges of Lake County.

“Judge Foreman is an outstanding jurist with extensive experience,” said current Chief Judge Victoria Rossetti. “He will be an effective leader in representing the interests of justice and the Court.” Foreman, who was successfully elected as Circuit Judge in the 2004 general election, said, “I am grateful to my colleagues for their support and encouragement, and I am looking forward to my new role as chief judge.”

Prior to his election, Judge Foreman had 30 years experience in civil and criminal litigation and had tried more than 200 cases in federal and state courts. As a member of the prestigious law firm of Freeborn and Peters for over ten years, his practice included representation of clients in environmental, gaming and crisis management matters. He has also been involved in numerous corporate internal investigations and represented clients throughout the world on matters of espionage and electronic intrusions and theft of intellectual property.

Appointed by President George H.W. Bush as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for a term from 1990-1993, Judge Foreman supervised the prosecution of organized crime, terrorism, and narco-terrorists, major frauds, public corruption, environmental and complex litigation, and defended the United States in complex civil matters. As a three-term State’s Attorney for Lake County from 1980-1990, he oversaw the prosecution of major criminal matters, including serial killers and organized crime, as well as complex civil rights, antitrust and self-insurance matters. He served as outside counsel on behalf of the State of Illinois v. Philip Morris, et al and has acted as special counsel in representing the Governor and state officials and agencies.

Judge Foreman is a member of several bar associations and numerous other professional organizations including the Illinois State, Lake County, American, Chicago and Wisconsin State, the Illinois Judges Association, the National Association of Former U.S. Attorneys, and the National District Attorney's Association. The Illinois Supreme Court appointed him to serve as a member of the 2010 Education Conference Committee for all Illinois judges. In addition, he has participated as faculty in several law related and educational programs and has served as a member of various boards of directors and several committees.

Judge Foreman earned a Juris Doctor degree in 1974 from John Marshall Law School and attended undergraduate school at Carroll College in Waukesha.

The election of Chief Judge took place at a Circuit Judges Meeting held on Thursday, December 1, 2011.

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