



News Release

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

Date of Release: June 12, 2018
Point of Contact: Jay W. Ukena
Kasey Dunn Morgan
Telephone: 847-377-4500
847-377-3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

UKENA RE-ELECTED TO SECOND TERM AS CHIEF JUDGE

The Circuit Judges of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit have voted unanimously Chief Judge Jay W. Ukena to a second term as Chief Judge. He will begin his second term on January 2, 2019. "I am humbled and honored to have the support and confidence of colleagues to serve as Chief Judge. They are dynamic judges, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve with each of them, along with the staff of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit," said Chief Judge Ukena. "I am excited about being able to see to completion significant projects that we are undertaking at this time, such as the opening of a new court tower and the selection of a new state-of-the-art case management system," he added.

The Honorable Jay W. Ukena was first elected Circuit Judge of the First Subcircuit in the November 2008 general election. He began his career as a Circuit Judge in the Family Division in February 2009 and was named Presiding Judge of the Family Division from January 2011 – June of 2014. From there he transferred to the Felony/Misdemeanor/Traffic Division where he presided over all felony traffic matters. Chief Judge Ukena begin his first term as Chief Judge on January 2, 2018.

Prior to his election, Chief Judge Ukena was in private practice for twenty-nine years which consisted of the areas of family law, criminal and traffic defense and Social Security disability. Also, he served as general counsel for the North Shore Sanitary District, the Attorney for Waukegan Township, Chief Prosecutor for the City of Waukegan and the Lake Zurich Village Prosecutor.

Chief Judge Ukena graduated from Lake Forest College with a B.A. and earned his Juris Doctor from John Marshall Law School. In January of 2011, Judge Ukena was appointed to the Child Support Advisory Committee by the State of Illinois where he served a three-year term. He is a member of the Illinois Judges Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, and the Lake County Bar Association.

###

www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us

Follow us on [Twitter @19thCircuitIL](https://twitter.com/19thCircuitIL)