



News Release

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

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Point of Contact: Kasey Dunn Morgan
Telephone: 847-377-3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

19th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HOSTS CEREMONIAL INDUCTION FOR ASSOCIATE JUDGE CHRISTOPHER M. KENNEDY

On Wednesday, February 19TH, 2020, Christopher M. Kennedy of Libertyville was inducted in as an Associate Judge of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. Kennedy filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Associate Judge Michael J. Fusz.

Chief Judge Diane E. Winter stated, "Chris, through your experiences with your family, community involvement, and legal career, the Circuit Judges have decided that you have the skill and knowledge to serve in this new role. Now a great responsibility is being given to you. The judiciary is entrusted with the essential role of preserving the rule of law while protecting public safety. This will be a humbling experience. Those entrusted to serve must honor the confidence placed in them by the citizens to protect their rights and liberties. You must be un-swayed by partisan interests, public clamor or fear of criticism in carrying out your duties. That is the honor of serving as a judge."

Mr. Kennedy received his Bachelor of Arts in History from State University of New York at Binghamton in 1990. In 1994, he earned his Juris Doctor from John Marshall Law School, where he was an editor of the Law Review. He was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1994 and is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and the Lake County Bar Association. Mr. Kennedy currently serves as Deputy General Counsel for the Office of the Special Deputy Receiver and was a civil litigator for many years after serving as an Assistant State's Attorney in Lake County. Mr. Kennedy received the distinction of being "highly recommended" by the Lake County Bar Association.

"Today marks the end of my career as an attorney. I've worked for government, I've worked for a firm in Chicago, I've worked for a small firm in the suburbs, I've been a sole practitioner, I've worked as in-house counsel, I've prosecuted criminal cases, I've even defended a few, I've defended a lot of civil cases, I've been a plaintiff's lawyer, I've been a lobbyist, and I've been a school board member. Being appointed as an associate judge is the highlight of my career. One thing I can tell you is that the law is consistently evolving, changing, endlessly complex, and I need to continuously learn. Every case is different, but I am committed to doing my best and promise that I will work hard every day to get every case right with the guidance and support of my fellow judges here at the 19th Judicial Circuit," said Judge Kennedy.

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