



News Release

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

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Point of Contact: Fred Foreman

Diane Flory

Telephone: 847.377.4500

847.377.3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

LAKE COUNTY JUDGES ELECTED TO JUDGES ASSOCIATION BOARD

Five Lake County judges are serving on the board of directors for Illinois' largest judge group. 19th Judicial Circuit Judge Margaret J. Mullen was newly elected to the Board of Directors of the Illinois Judges Association at the annual meeting held on June 7, 2013 at DePaul Law School in Chicago. Judge Mullen will serve a three year term. Chief Judge Fred L. Foreman, Circuit Judges Jorge Ortiz and Daniel Shanes, and Associate Judge Nancy Schuster Waites are all currently serving terms on the Illinois Judges Association Board of Directors. There are approximately 50 members of the Board of Directors.

The Illinois Judges Association is composed of 1,250 active and retired Illinois State Court Judges. The IJA provides education and services to its members and information about court operations to the public. The board members are assigned to one of 13 committees that work throughout Illinois to provide programs and information to every community in the state.

Chief Judge Foreman, former United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and former Lake County State's Attorney is co-chair of The Judicial Selection and Retention Committee which investigates problems of general judicial concern regarding the same. He also serves on the Government Affairs Committee and on the Benefits and Pension Committee.

Judge Shanes is co-chair of the Board of Editors and serves on *The Gavel* Committee. *The Gavel* is the official publication of the Illinois Judges Association. Judge Shanes hears felony cases and serves as the Presiding Judge of Misdemeanor/Traffic.

Judge Ortiz was chosen for the Executive Committee of the IJA, which advises the President of the association. He has been a judge since 2002 and has served as Presiding Judge of the Family Division. He now presides over large civil cases.

Judge Waites was appointed to the bench in 2005 and sits in Probate Court. She has served on the Courtroom in the Classroom Committee, and she works actively with students on drug awareness programs with the IJA.

Judge Mullen co-chairs/serves on the Media Response Committee, which is involved in public relations. She is also a member of the Executive Committee for the IJA. She has served as a judge in Lake County since 1992 and is the Presiding Judge of the Law Division, with responsibility over civil matters.

The Illinois Judges Association also installed new officers for 2013-14 at the annual meeting. They are: President, Justice Mary Seminara Schostok of the Illinois Appellate Court. Justice Schostok also served as a trial judge in Lake County before her election to the appellate court; 1st Vice-President, Justice Michael Hyman from Cook County; 2nd Vice-President, Judge Robert Anderson of DuPage County; 3rd Vice-President, Judge Israel Desierto, also from Cook County; Secretary, Judge (Ret.) John Coady; and Treasurer Judge (Ret.) James Snyder. For more information about the Illinois Judges Association, see www.ija.org. For more information about the 19th Judicial Circuit, see www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us.

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