



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

MITCHELL HOFFMAN APPOINTED CIRCUIT JUDGE

“I am pleased to announce today that the Illinois Supreme Court has appointed Associate Judge Mitchell L. Hoffman as Circuit Judge of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, Fourth Subcircuit” said Chief Judge John T. Phillips. “Mitch Hoffman is an outstanding jurist and highly respected by members of the legal profession as well as the Lake County community in which he serves.”

Judge Hoffman will fill the position now held by Fred Foreman who will retire from the bench as Circuit Judge on January 20, 2014. The Supreme Court appointment is effective as of February 3, 2014 until December 5, 2016. To maintain his title as Circuit Judge after December 5, 2016, Hoffman will have to be nominated in the March 2016 primary and elected in the November 2016 general election.

Appointed as Associate Judge in February 2001, Hoffman has handled Traffic, DUI, Misdemeanor and Civil matters. Since 2006, Judge Hoffman has been assigned to Chancery Court, hearing complex civil cases including commercial litigation, mechanic’s liens, and mortgage foreclosures. He is an expert in the mortgage foreclosure process, addressing the problems caused by the high volume of cases associated with the foreclosure crisis that started in 2008. He is one of the principals responsible for the implementation of the new Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program, developed to help resolve these cases in Lake County. That program began in December of 2013.

Admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1984, Hoffman began his legal career in the general practice of law with the firm of Albert Brooks Friedman, Ltd. in Chicago. In 1988, he was hired by the Civil Division of the Lake County State's Attorney's Office where he practiced environmental enforcement and land use law. He went on to serve as the Chief Deputy of the Civil Division until his appointment as an associate judge.

Judge Hoffman received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1981 from Colorado College in Colorado Springs and earned his Juris Doctor in 1984 from the University of Illinois College of Law.

Judge Hoffman and his wife Sara are active in a number of civic and professional organizations and are residents of the North Shore community. They have two sons in college.

The installation of Judge Hoffman as Circuit Judge will take place on Monday, February 3, 2014.

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