



News Release

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

Date of Release: 9/21/2015

Point of Contact: John T. Phillips

Diane Flory

Telephone: 847.377.4500

847.377.3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

LAKE COUNTY COURT REPORTERS NAMED OFFICERS OF IL COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

Vernita Allen-Williams and Deborah Cohen-Rojas, Official Court Reporters for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, have been elected as officers of the Illinois Court Reporters Association (ILCRA). ILCRA is a professional organization for court reporters and is the state arm of the National Court Reporters Association. Vernita will serve as President and Deborah as Secretary. Their term of office is for two years which began on September 12, 2015.

Vernita attended Madison Business College in Madison, WI where she earned an AA degree in court and convention reporting. She has been a reporter for the Lake County court system for over 18 years. Deborah received her BA degree from Carthage College in 1998 and finished the College of Court Reporting in 2007. She joined the Circuit in October 2009.

"I am very proud of Vernita and Deborah who are dedicated and committed to the work they do for the court system, as are all of our court reporters," said Chief Judge John Phillips. "I know they will also do an outstanding job in their new positions as officers of ILCRA."

Official court reporters are state employees who work for the Chief Judge of the Circuit in which they are employed. They must be licensed in the State of Illinois as Certified Shorthand Reporters (CSR). Court reporters make a verbatim record of all that is said in

court proceedings. In an average day a reporter may write anywhere from 30,000 to 50,000 words. Currently, the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit has 39 judges while there are 21 authorized official court reporter positions and one supervisor position for Lake County.

Circuit Judge Jorge Ortiz had the honor of swearing in Vernita and Deborah as ILCRA officers at ILCRA's Annual Convention held September 10-12, 2015 in Springfield.

###

www.circuitcourt.state.il.us

Picture included, left to right:
Vernita Allen-Williams and Deborah Cohen-Rojas