

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 18, 2001

**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT ANNOUNCES JUDICIAL VACANCY FOR
FIFTH CIRCUIT**

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Tuesday the existence of a Circuit Court judgeship vacancy in the Fifth Circuit, which includes Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Edgar and Vermilion Counties.

The vacancy is created by the announced retirement of Judge Paul C. Komada of Charleston. Judge Komada, an at-large Circuit Judge in Charleston since 1980, will step down September 30, 2001.

In the interim before next year's election, the new vacancy will be filled by Supreme Court appointment, and Justice Rita B. Garman announced the beginning of an application process, which will lead to final Court approval.

Notices of the vacancy will be posted in courthouses throughout the Circuit. Applications may be obtained by writing to:

Mrs. Mary Hurley
Office of Justice Rita B. Garman
Supreme Court of Illinois
3607 North Vermilion, Suite 1
Danville, IL 61832

All questionnaires must be completed by the applicant and received in Justice Garman's office no later than Monday, Oct. 15, 2001.

The applications will undergo an extensive evaluation process, including review by a screening committee established by Justice Garman. Among criteria the committee will use in evaluating candidates are judicial and legal experience, integrity, professional competence, judicial temperament and a commitment to justice.