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## **SUPREME COURT TO POLL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SENTIMENT AMONG COURT REPORTERS**

The Supreme Court of Illinois announced Thursday it will commission an independent poll of court reporting services employees around the state to measure sentiment for organizing for collective bargaining purposes.

The poll will be conducted and audited by a Springfield accounting firm, Pehlman and Dold, in a manner that will protect the confidentiality of respondents.

Materials are expected to be mailed to employees April 19 and will be due back to the accounting firm May 3. The firm will tabulate and certify the results to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and to the Director of the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts no later than May 7.

There are about 500 court reporting services employees in the state.

The Court also announced Thursday new Supreme Court Rule 45 incorporating a comprehensive 57-page administrative document containing rules and regulations governing court reporting services for Illinois courts.

The document, entitled *Administrative Regulations: A Comprehensive Document Governing Court Reporting Services for the Illinois Courts*, was compiled in response to recommendations received by the Court from its Committee on Court Reporting, which included representatives of court reporting services employees and chief judges of the Circuit Court.

The document addressed a myriad of significant issues facing court reporting employees and the chief judges, and took effect October 20, 2003.

**MORE**

A copy of the document is available on the Illinois Supreme Court's web site at:  
[www.state.il.us/court/circuitcourts/regs.htm](http://www.state.il.us/court/circuitcourts/regs.htm).

Justice Thomas L. Kilbride dissented to the adoption of Rule 45.