

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2006

SUPREME COURT FILLS CIRCUIT COURT VACANCY IN LEE COUNTY

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Friday the appointment of Dixon attorney Ronald M. Jacobson to be resident Circuit Judge of Lee County in the Fifteenth Judicial District.

Mr. Jacobson, who has his own law office and also serves as chief of the civil division in the Lee County State's Attorney's office, will take office on June 5. His appointment terminates December 1, 2008. He is filling the vacancy created by the retirement of David T. Fritts.

Mr. Jacobson has been a prosecutor in Lee and Ogle Counties for more than 16 years. He served four years as assistant state's attorney in Ogle County from 1982 to 1986, then 12 years as first assistant state's attorney in Lee County from 1988 to 2000.

"I am deeply humbled by the confidence the Illinois Supreme Court has placed in me by this appointment," said Mr. Jacobson. "I gratefully accept this new responsibility and I feel compelled to seek God's wisdom as I begin serving the people of Lee County to the best of my ability."

Mr. Jacobson maintained a private practice from 1986 to 1988 in Wheaton, and from 2001 to the present in Dixon. Since 2005, he has also served as chief of the civil division for Lee County State's Atty. Paul Whitcombe.

Mr. Jacobson holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Wheaton College and received his law degree from Valparaiso (Ind.) University School of Law in 1982.

Active in the community, Mr. Jacobson currently serves as board president of the Hope Crisis Pregnancy Center, is past president of the Sauk Valley Community Concert Association, and past board member of the American Cancer Society.

He and his wife, Shelley, a teacher for Dixon Public Schools, live in Dixon with their three daughters, Emily, Hannah and Molly.

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For media wishing to contact Mr. Jacobson: 815-284-5245 (Lee County state's attorney's office); 815-284-8900 (Law Office of Ronald Jacobson); email: rjacobson@grics.net

(FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312/793-2323)