



Supreme Court of Illinois

December 18, 2018

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT APPOINTS DERICO AS AT-LARGE CIRCUIT JUDGE OF COOK COUNTY

Justice Mary Jane Theis and the Illinois Supreme Court have announced the appointment of James T. Derico, Jr., as an At-Large Cook County Circuit Judge.

Mr. Derico was appointed to fill the vacancy of the Hon. Matthew Coghlan as a result of the 2018 general election.

The appointment takes effect January 18, 2019, and will conclude on December 7, 2020, following the November 2020 general election.

"I am excited and humbled by my appointment. I sincerely thank the Honorable Mary Jane Theis, her committee and the Supreme Court for this appointment to the Circuit Court of Cook County," said Derico. "I would also like to thank my family and my network of friends who have supported me throughout my career. I look forward to serving the people of Cook County."

Mr. Derico is the owner and founding partner of Derico & Associates, PC, where he has worked for over 25 years. In his previous work, Mr. Derico was an Associate Attorney at Gardner, Carton & Douglas, in-house Corporate Attorney for the BorgWarner Corporation, and Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Chicago.

Justice Theis recommended Mr. Derico's appointment after candidates were reviewed by bar associations and a special judicial screening committee. Mr. Derico received qualified or recommended ratings from a dozen bar groups. The special judicial screening committee was established by Justice Theis in 2013 and is co-chaired by retired U.S. District Court Judge Wayne R. Andersen and retired Illinois Appellate Court Judge Michael J. Gallagher.

Mr. Derico earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Notre Dame and his *Juris Doctor* from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

His professional associations include the Chicago Bar Association, where he was a Chair on the Corporate Practices Group (YLS), and the Cook County Bar Association. He has also served on the Illinois Supreme Court Committee for Civil Jury Instructions. For his work in providing pro bono legal services, Mr. Derico was the recipient of the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS) Distinguished Service Award in 2009 and 2014.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Chris Bonjean, Communications Director to the Illinois Supreme Court at 312.793.2323 or cbonjean@illinoiscourts.gov.)