

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 9, 2006**

**TOBIAS BARRY RETIRES, AND SUPREME COURT ASSIGNS  
JUDGE ROBERT L. CARTER TO APPELLATE BENCH**

**The Illinois Supreme Court announced Wednesday the retirement of Tobias G. Barry, a longtime public servant, from the Illinois Appellate Court for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District, and assigned Chief Judge Robert L. Carter of the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit to succeed him.**

**Justice Barry's retirement is effective August 31, 2006. Judge Carter will assume his new position September 1, 2006.**

**Judge Carter's appellate assignment was recommended to the full Court by Justice Thomas L. Kilbride.**

**Judge Carter, of Ottawa, has been a judge of the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit since 1979. He became Chief Judge of the Circuit in 1993, while retaining a full caseload. During his 27 years as a judge, he was appointed by the Supreme Court to numerous committees furthering judicial education and the administration of justice.**

**Judge Carter served in the Army in Vietnam, was a law clerk to former Chief Justice Howard C. Ryan of the Illinois Supreme Court and engaged in the general private practice of law before being appointed to the bench in 1979.**

**"It has been an honor to serve all these years as a trial judge in the State of Illinois," said Judge Carter. "I am thankful for the opportunity and the confidence now placed in me by the Illinois Supreme Court to continue my contributions to the law and to the fair administration of justice on behalf of the people of Illinois while serving on the Illinois Appellate Court."**

**MORE**

**Justice Barry Retires; Judge Carter Assigned to Vacancy  
Add One**

**Justice Barry, 82, has celebrated more than a half century in the law. He was assigned to his most recent term on the Appellate Court in November 2002, and had served on the Appellate Court earlier from 1974 to 1994. Before his first term of service on the Appellate Court, Justice Barry was elected to and served in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1960 to 1974, where he chaired or served on virtually every House committee.**

**“My doctor told me he didn’t want work to interfere with my vacation, so I guess it’s time to move on,” said Judge Barry of his retirement.**

**Justice Barry grew up in Bureau County and after graduating from St. Bede Academy in Peru, served in the Navy in the Pacific Theater from 1943 to 1946. He graduated from LaSalle-Peru-Ogelsby Junior College, received his undergraduate degree from Marquette University and his law degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1952.**

**The Third Judicial District is composed of 21 counties across north central Illinois. Those counties are: Will, Iroquois, Kankakee, Grundy, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam, Bureau, Whiteside, Henry, Stark, Peoria, Fulton, Knox, Whiteside, Rock Island, Mercer, Warren, Henderson, Hancock and McDonough.**

**--30--**

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

**THE HONORABLE ROBERT L. CARTER**  
**THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Judge Carter of Ottawa, Illinois, has been a judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, State of Illinois, since 1979. He was elected Circuit Judge in 1988 and became Chief Judge in 1993, keeping a full caseload. In December, 2002, Judge Carter was elected Chair of the Conference of Chief Judges and re-elected in 2003 and 2005. He holds A.B. (1968) and J.D. (1974) degrees from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, and a Master of Arts (1974) in Administration from Sangamon State University. He completed a one week course in mediation at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada in the summer of 2001.

In 1969-70 Judge Carter served in the United States Army in Vietnam and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. He was a law clerk to Justice Howard C. Ryan of the Illinois Supreme Court in 1974-1975 and engaged in the general private practice of law from 1975-79.

The Illinois Supreme Court appointed Judge Carter to the Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Organization and Function of the Illinois Judicial Conference (1990-91), and in 1986 to 2003, to the Illinois Judicial Conference Study Committee on Complex Litigation which prepares the Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation and the Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation. He is serving at the present and in 2001-2002 on the Supreme Court Judicial Conference and its Executive Committee. In 2001, the Illinois Supreme Court appointed Judge Carter to the Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases. In 2003, he was appointed to the Special Supreme Court Committee on Child Custody Issues and in 2004 he was appointed to the Legislative Committee.

Since 1980, by appointment of the Illinois Supreme Court, Judge Carter has been a frequent lecturer at judicial education programs for Illinois judges on such topic areas as jury trials, evidence, contempt and domestic relations. In 2005, he taught and chaired a seminar on Judicial Administration and Management. In 1998, Judge Carter served on the Judicial Mentor Training Committee to assist in the implementation of the Illinois Supreme Court's mentoring program for new judges. As a member of that committee, he helped develop a mentor manual and taught at the Mentor Training Seminar. At present he is Chairman of the Judicial Mentor Committee. Also by appointment of the Illinois Supreme Court, he served as a member (1983-91) and chairman (1989-91) of the Judicial Education Committee and took an active role in planning and presenting judicial education seminars and the New Judge Seminar. By appointment of the Illinois Supreme Court, Judge Carter was a member (1981-86) and chairman (1985-86) of the Associate Judge Seminar Coordinating Committee and Conference. He was on the faculty for the Institute for Trial Advocacy in the area of negotiation and mediation for a number of years. He taught business law at the Illinois Valley Community College for over fourteen years.

Judge Carter is past president of the Illinois Judges Association and a member of its Board of Directors. He was Chairman of the Supreme Court Committee on Court Reporting and is a member of the Reporter Executive Committee. In 2001, he was a faculty mentor at the first Illinois Advanced Judicial Academy in the area of scientific evidence. In 2003, he was a member of the Planning Committee and faculty mentor for the second Illinois Judicial Academy on the topic of fact finding. He is Chairman of the Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee on Family Violence issues. He is a member of and past post commander of the American Legion, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Illinois and LaSalle County Bar Associations.

A lifelong resident of Illinois, Judge Carter is married to Nancy Rink Carter, an attorney, and they have two children, Mary and Matthew.