

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 24, 2008

SUPREME COURT FILLS SEVENTH CIRCUIT VACANCY

The Illinois Supreme Court has announced the appointment of Peter C. Cavanagh, an experienced criminal law attorney, to be resident Circuit Judge of Sangamon County in the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

The appointment of Mr. Cavanagh, 37, will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Circuit Judge Robert J. Eggers, who is retiring from judicial office on July 29, 2008. Mr. Cavanagh's appointment is effective August 25, 2008 and will terminate December 6, 2010.

Justice Rita B. Garman recommended the appointment of Mr. Cavanagh to the Supreme Court following a review process by a special citizen's screening committee.

Mr. Cavanagh has been practicing law with the Springfield firm Cavanagh & Madonia LLP since September 2002. While in private practice, he served as part time public defender in Sangamon and Logan counties.

From August 1999 to September 2002, Mr. Cavanagh served as an assistant state's attorney in the Sangamon County state's attorney's office; and before then worked for a short time as an associate attorney in the firm of Londrigan, Potter & Randle P.C.

He is certified by the Supreme Court as a member of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar, eligible to serve as lead counsel in death penalty cases.

Mr. Cavanagh is a lifelong Springfield resident with a history degree from Illinois State University. He received his J.D. degree from The John Marshall Law School in 1997.

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Mr. Cavanagh lives in Springfield with his wife, Kristin, and three children.

Justice Garman's screening committee consisted of seven persons, four nonlawyers and three attorneys.

Howard Peters, of the Illinois Hospital Association in Springfield, served as the committee's chairperson. Other nonlawyer members were Jim Bruner, a Jacksonville businessman; Howard Humphrey, CEO of American Brand in Springfield; and Carolyn Moore, retired teacher and businesswoman of Rochester.

The lawyer members of the committee include retired Judge Ron Robinson of Winchester; Peggy Ryan with Sorling, Northrup, Hann, Cullen & Cochran in Springfield; and John G. Noll of Noll Law Offices in Springfield.

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**(FOR MORE INFORMATION, Please contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary,
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