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JUSTICE LLOYD A. KARMEIER TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW ATTORNEYS

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier will administer the attorney's oath to 135 new lawyers who will be admitted to practice in Illinois on Thursday, May 6.

The group is among 691 men and women who were certified as candidates and will be sworn in as Illinois attorneys at ceremonies in the state's five Supreme Court judicial districts.

The Collinsville program in the Fifth Judicial District will begin at 2 p.m. at the Gateway Convention Center, which is located near the intersection of Route 157 and Interstates 55/70 in Collinsville.

Justice Karmeier will preside over the ceremony and welcome the members of the class, families and friends.

Carl Draper, secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association, will be the opening speaker. Mr. Draper practices in Springfield, specializing in civil trial and general practice, with a focus on federal civil rights, and administrative and employment law for both employers and employees.

Steve Miller, senior attorney to Justice Karmeier, will also speak. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Mr. Miller served as a law clerk to U. S. District Court Judge James Meredith. Mr. Miller has served three Justices of the Illinois Supreme Court since 1985 and has dealt with significant issues that have come before the Court, including legislative redistricting, judicial tenure and discipline, capital punishment, taxation and separation of powers.

MORE

**Justice Karmeier to Administer Oath
Add One**

Belleville attorney Justin Kuehn will make the motion to admit the class. Justin Mattea, an attorney in Collinsville, will make an additional motion to admit the class.

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: Illinois Appellate Court Justice Thomas M. Welch from the Fifth Judicial District; Circuit Judges A. Andreas Matoesian from the Third Judicial Circuit and Patrick M. Young from the 20th Judicial Circuit; and Associate Judge Vincent Lopinot from the 20th Circuit.

A reception will follow.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination, a required ethics examination and were certified by the Committee on Character and Fitness.

The new attorneys will bring the total number of licensed attorneys in Illinois to nearly 88,000.

Media coverage is invited.

The counties in the Fifth Judicial District are: Christian, Shelby, Montgomery, Bond, Fayette, Effingham, Jasper, Crawford, Lawrence, Richland, Clay, Wayne, Marion, Jefferson, Clinton, Washington, St. Clair, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Hamilton, White, Edwards, Wabash, Gallatin, Saline, Williamson, Jackson, Union, Johnson, Pope, Hardin, Alexander, Pulaski and Massac.

Ceremonies in the other districts will be held in Chicago, Springfield, Ottawa and Elgin.

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