

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 29, 2010

**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT APPOINTS ASSOCIATE JUDGE PAUL G. LAWRENCE AS CIRCUIT JUDGE**

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Wednesday Associate Judge Paul G. Lawrence has been appointed a circuit judge at-large in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

Judge Lawrence was appointed to fill the Circuit Court vacancy created by the upcoming retirement of Judge G. Michael Prall on November 2, 2010. The appointment is effective November 3, 2010 and will expire December 3, 2012.

Justice Rita B. Garman recommended the appointment of Judge Lawrence after a review process by a special citizen screening committee. The committee unanimously recommended Judge Lawrence's appointment to Justice Garman to fill the vacancy.

Judge Lawrence graduated from University of Illinois in 1982 with a B.S. degree in Accounting. He received his *juris doctor* degree from University of Missouri in 1985. Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Lawrence practiced at the law firm of Lawrence, Moore and Ogar.

He was appointed as an associate judge in the Eleventh Circuit in 2002, serving as a trial judge for over eight years until Wednesday's appointment by the Supreme Court as a Circuit Judge.

A resident of Bloomington, Judge Lawrence is married with five children.

Justice Garman's special screening committee, which reviewed the candidates, consisted of four non-lawyers and three lawyers.

The non-lawyer members were: Chairperson George Janet of Lincoln; Bloomington residents Julie Dobski and Dr. Paul Pederson, M.D.; and Pontiac resident Teresa Grant-Quick.

The lawyers on the committee were the Hon. Luther Dearborn (retired) of Hudson, Guy Fraker and William Wetzel, both of Bloomington.

**MORE**

**Supreme Court Appoints Judge Lawrence to Vacancy  
Add One**

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit is comprised of five counties: Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean and Woodford.

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