

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2001

MOIRA JOHNSON TO BE SWORN IN AS CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Moira S. Johnson will be sworn in as a Cook County Circuit judge Thursday, September 13 at 2 p.m. at the Supreme Court Courtroom located at 160 N. LaSalle Street, 18th Floor. She will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Thomas P. Durkin.

Rev. Bill Winston, pastor of the Living Word Christian Center in Forest Park, will give the invocation. Cook County Circuit Court Judge Willie M. Whiting will administer the oath.

Ms. Johnson, 50, graduated from DePaul University College of Law in 1982. Over the past 10 years, she has been a sole practitioner, concentrating in personal injury, worker's compensation and insurance defense trial work.

Since 1996, she also has worked as a referee for the Illinois Department of Employment Security. Ms. Johnson has decided more than 4,000 appeals brought by employers and employees concerning hearings presided over by agency hearings referees.

Ms. Johnson is the president of the Illinois Association of Administrative Law Judges. She is also a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Cook County Bar Association, Illinois Trial Lawyers' Association, Women's Bar Association and Black Women's Bar Association.

She is married to Mark Lyons, an attorney. The couple's daughter, Aicha Johnson, is an attorney for the Chicago department of planning and development.