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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPREME COURT APPOINTS NEW JUDGE FOR ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Supreme Court announced Tuesday the appointment of Associate Judge Scott Drazewski to a new Circuit Court judgeship, at large, in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

Judge Drazewski has been an associate judge in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit in Bloomington since 1997. Before that, he was in private practice and served as an assistant public defender for McLean County.

Justice Rita B. Garman of the Supreme Court recommended Judge Drazewski following an extensive application and screening process which included review by a nine-person evaluation committee established by Justice Garman to aid in the process.

The special panel was made up of lawyers and non-lawyers and was chaired by Dr. Susan Kern, vice president for university advancement at Illinois State University.

“I am humbled by the confidence shown in me by Justice Garman and the other members of the Illinois Supreme Court,” Judge Drazewski said.

The appointment is effective Dec. 3, 2001 and terminates Dec. 2, 2002.

The Illinois Supreme Court is granted the authority under the Constitution to fill vacancies during the interim between judicial elections. Judge Drazewski has said he will be a candidate for a full, six-year term.

The new judgeship in the Eleventh Circuit was mandated by provisions in a state statute, the Circuit Courts Act, which provides for additional judges for growing populations as measured by the U.S. Census.

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New population figures show the Eleventh Circuit grew by 24,797 persons between 1990 and 2000. Most of that growth, 21,253, occurred in McLean County.

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit includes Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean and Woodford counties.