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JUSTICE RITA B. GARMAN TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW ATTORNEYS

Supreme Court of Illinois Justice Rita B. Garman will preside and administer the attorney's oath when 17 new attorneys are admitted to practice in ceremonies in Springfield on Thursday, May 9.

The group is among 611 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 Springfield program in the Fourth Judicial District will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Supreme Court Courtroom in the Illinois Supreme Court Building, located at Second and Capitol Streets in Springfield.

Justice Garman, the second woman to sit on the High Court, will preside over the ceremony and welcome the members of the class, their families and friends.

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: Fourth District Appellate Court Judges James A. Knecht and John W. Turner; Circuit Court Judges M. Carol Pope from the Eighth Judicial Circuit, John G. Townsend from the Sixth Judicial Circuit, and Ronald D. Spears from the Fourth Judicial Circuit.

Attorney Johnathan H. Barnard will make the motion to admit the class. Judge Townsend will second the motion to admit the class and Judge Turner will respond to the motion to admit the class.

Judge Knecht will serve as keynote speaker, with Judge Spears also participating.

MORE

A reception will follow.

Those to be sworn in as new attorneys are: Gregory J. Berg, Bloomington; Andrew Bourney, Decatur; Gwenda M. Broeren, Champaign; Johnathan D. England, Decatur; Wanda Everson-Donnelly, Champaign; Angela M. Fyans, Springfield; Enoch R. Hall, Bloomington; Farideh Harandi, Champaign; Holly J. Henze, Quincy; Alice W. Johannesen, Springfield; Johnathan J. Lee, Quincy; Frank M. Mulholland, Jr., Danville; Jenny H. Park, Greenwood, Indiana; Justin A. Reichert, Jacksonville; Elizabeth A. Robischon, Champaign; Douglas R. Smith, Bloomington; Adam C. Toosley, Champaign; Amy L. Twohey, Englewood, Colorado.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination and an 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 more than 76,000. About 10,000 of these are lawyers who pay a reduced registration fee and neither reside nor practice in Illinois.

Media coverage is invited.

Justice Garman joined the Supreme Court in February 2001 with a wealth of judicial experience, having been appointed to replace Justice Benjamin K. Miller, who retired. She was the first woman associate judge in the 5th Judicial Circuit (1974-86); the first woman Circuit Judge in the 5th Circuit (1986-95); and the first woman to serve on the Appellate Court in the Fourth District (1995-01).

She received her B.S. degree in economics with highest honors from the University of Illinois in 1965, Bronze Tablet; and her J.D. degree with distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1968.

Before becoming an associate judge, Justice Garman was assistant state's attorney in Vermilion County (1969-73) and was engaged in private practice with Sebat, Swanson, Banks, Lessen & Garman (1973).

The counties in the Fourth District of the Supreme Court are: Adams, Pike, Calhoun, Schuyler, Brown, Scott, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Morgan, Cass, Mason, Menard, Sangamon, Logan, DeWitt, Macon, Piatt, Moultrie, McLean, Woodford, Livingston, Ford, Champaign, Douglas, Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Edgar and Vermilion.

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