

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2002

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT ANNOUNCES JUDICIAL VACANCY FOR SEVENTH CIRCUIT

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Wednesday the existence of a Circuit Court judgeship vacancy in the Seventh Circuit, which includes Jersey, Greene, Macoupin, Scott, Morgan and Sangamon counties.

The vacancy is created by the announced retirement of Judge J. David Bone of Jacksonville. Judge Bone, a resident circuit judge in Jacksonville since 1990, will step down July 2, 2002.

In the interim, the new vacancy will be filled by Supreme Court appointment, and Justice Rita B. Garman announced the beginning of an application process, which will lead to final Court approval. The person appointed to fill the vacancy will serve until the November, 2004 general election.

Notices of the vacancy will be posted in courthouses throughout the Circuit. Applications may be obtained by writing to:

Mrs. Mary Hurley
Office of Justice Rita B. Garman
Supreme Court of Illinois
3607 North Vermilion, Suite 1
Danville, IL 61832

All applications must be completed by the applicant and received in Justice Garman's office no later than Friday, May 31, 2002.

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The applications will undergo an extensive evaluation process, including review by a screening committee established by Justice Garman. Among criteria the committee will use in evaluating candidates are judicial and legal experience, integrity, professional competence, judicial temperament and a commitment to justice.