

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2002

**JUSTICE GARMAN ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF JUDICIAL
SCREENING COMMITTEE**

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman announced today the formation of a Judicial Screening Committee for the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

The screening committee was formed for the purpose of assessing the qualifications of those persons who have applied for appointment to the office of Judge of the Circuit Court for the Seventh Judicial Circuit to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge J. David Bone of Jacksonville.

After the committee has received public input, gathered information, and interviewed each of the applicants, Justice Garman will make a recommendation to the Illinois Supreme Court, which will make the appointment. The person appointed will serve as a judge of the Circuit Court until the general election to be held in November 2004. It is likely that the person appointed will be a candidate for the position in that election.

The screening committee consists of seven persons who reside in the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Four of the committee members are non-lawyers and three are lawyers.

The non-lawyer members of the committee include: Dr. Lawrence Bryan, president of McMurray College; Dr. E.C. Bone, Jacksonville physician, Jim Bruner, Jacksonville businessman; and Doris Hopper, retired dean from Illinois College.

The lawyer members of the committee include Jacksonville attorneys Harry Story, Daniel J. Beard, and Eddie Carpenter.

Jim Bruner will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Those who have submitted applications and are to be considered for appointment to the judgeship, and will be screened by the committee, are: Charles Colburn, Morgan County State's Attorney; Forrest Keaton, Larry Kuster, and Richard Mitchell, Jacksonville attorneys; and Judy Heineken, Michael Logan, and Matthew Maurer, Springfield attorneys.

MORE

Justice Garman Announces Formation of Committee

Members of the public are invited to submit comments concerning the applicants by writing to any of the committee members. Comments should be received by the committee before July 12, 2002. All comments will be held in the strictest confidence between the committee members and the Supreme Court.

The Seventh Judicial Circuit includes Greene, Jersey, Morgan, Macoupin, Sangamon, and Scott counties.