

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 4, 2002

**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT ANNOUNCES JUDICIAL VACANCY FOR
FIFTH CIRCUIT**

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Wednesday the existence of a Circuit Court vacancy in the Fifth Judicial Circuit, which includes Cumberland, Clark, Coles, Edgar and Vermilion counties.

The vacancy was created by the resignation of Judge Robert Cochonour of Casey. Judge Cochonour had been a resident circuit judge in Casey since 1990.

Under the Illinois Constitution the 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 Tuesday, October 1, 2002.

MORE

Court Announces Judgeship Vacancy in 5th Circuit

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.