

April 19, 2004

**MEDIA ADVISORY – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JUSTICE ROBERT THOMAS TO SPEAK AT NEWS CONFERENCE ON  
SPECIAL FORUM TO IMPROVE CIVILITY AMONG LAWYERS**

**WHO:** Justice Robert R. Thomas of the Illinois Supreme Court; David Rolewick, chairman of the Special Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism; Gordon B. Nash, vice-chair of the Committee; Michael Demetrio, president of the Chicago Bar Association; and Terrence Lavin, president of the Illinois State Bar Association.

**WHAT:** A news conference on efforts to recommend ways to improve civility among lawyers and the public image of lawyers. The Special Supreme Court Committee is holding a series of forums statewide where lawyers and judges discuss ways to control excesses that sometimes occur during litigation.

One of the issues is where and how to draw the line between zealous advocacy on behalf of clients and “Rambo-like” tactics designed to aggravate or block the opposition. The statewide series of forums was launched September 10, 2003 in Peoria.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, April 21, 2004 - 1:30 p.m., just before the start of the forum.

**WHERE:** Chicago Bar Association Headquarters, President’s Room - Second Floor, 321 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago.

**(FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court at 312-793-2323 or David N. Anderson, assistant executive director of the ISBA, at 217/416-1425)**