

June 24, 2004

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **JUSTICE KILBRIDE TO GIVE KEYNOTE FOR LEGAL HONOR SOCIETY AT KANKAKEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CEREMONY**

Justice Thomas L. Kilbride of the Supreme Court of Illinois will be the keynote speaker on Tuesday, June 29 when an induction ceremony will be held for the first members of the Kankakee Community College chapter of the national honor society in paralegal and legal assistant studies.

The ceremony, to be held at the Kankakee County Courthouse, 450 E. Court Street, is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

The son of Leo and Colleen Kilbride of Bourbonnais, Justice Kilbride was raised in Kankakee and graduated from Bishop McNamara High School in Kankakee.

Justice Kilbride will welcome five students from KCC's Paralegal/Legal Assistant Studies program into Lambda Epsilon Chi, the national honor society.

The students are Jamie Ann Greenley of Bourbonnais; Adrienne Haley of Clifton; Carrie Hinrich of Clifton; Diana Oskroba of Kankakee and Kendra L. Warner of Ashkum.

To qualify for membership in the society, each student member must have completed at least two-thirds of the program requirements, have an overall grade point average of 3.5 or higher at the community college, as well as a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in paralegal/legal assistant studies classes. Students must also provide two letters of recommendation and submit a 500-word essay outlining their qualifications for membership.

“While they have long been the ‘gold standard’ for academic performance, it is clear that the Lambda Epsilon Chi membership criteria pertain to student performance at the very highest levels,” said Kris Condon, KCC’s paralegal/legal assistant studies program coordinator.

Eight honorary memberships also will be conferred to seven adjunct faculty members and to Justice Kilbride. The faculty members are: Julie Anderson-Muniz, coordinator of special projects at KCC; Frank Astrella, Kankakee County first assistant state's attorney; Kathy Bradshaw Elliott, Kankakee County Circuit Court judge; Randall R. Chaplinski, senior vice president and chief trust

**MORE**

officer for HomeStar Title Company; J. Dennis Marek, managing partner with the law firm of Ackman, Marek & Boyd; Dana M. Meyer, partner with the law firm of Ackman, Marek & Boyd; and Michael A. Stanfa, senior vice president of Peoples Bank of Kankakee County.

Kankakee County Circuit Court Chief Judge Clark E. Erickson will preside over the ceremony and also make remarks.

Justice Kilbride was elected to the High Court in November 2000 after practicing law for 20 years in the Rock Island area, the last seven as a sole practitioner. He had been counsel for the cities of Silvis and Moline, 17 township governments and several other local units of government.

Justice Kilbride received his B.A. degree magna cum laude from St. Mary's College in Winona, Minn., and his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington D.C. in 1981. While in law school, Justice Kilbride completed judicial internships for the administrative assistant to the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and for U.S. District Court Judge Joyce Hens Green.

Lambda Epsilon Chi Honor Society is a nationally-based honor society in paralegal studies that is administered by the American Association for Paralegal Education. There are only three other Lambda Epsilon Chi chapters in Illinois. Two Paralegal/Legal Assistant Studies degrees are offered at KCC, a two-year associate degree program for those who plan to immediately enter the workforce or to transfer into a four-year bachelor's degree program, and a one-year certificate for those already holding a bachelor's degree.

For more information on the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Studies program at KCC, phone Ms. Condon at (815) 802-8216 or e-mail at [kcondon@kankakee.edu](mailto:kcondon@kankakee.edu).