

August 13, 2004

MEDIA ADVISORY – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JUSTICE GARMAN TO ADMINISTER OATH OF PROFESSIONALISM TO
NEW UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LAW STUDENTS**

WHO: Justice Rita B. Garman of the Illinois Supreme Court

WHAT: Justice Garman will administer an oath of professionalism to incoming law students at the University of Illinois. As part of a continuing program of the Special Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism, justices of the Illinois Supreme Court have been attending orientation sessions at all law schools in the state and administering to the incoming students an “Oath of Professionalism.”

The Supreme Court Committee also has encouraged and is facilitating additional orientation sessions for the incoming students on questions of ethics and professionalism. The idea behind the oath and the workshops on professionalism stems from a belief among justices of the Illinois Supreme Court that one of the most effective ways of improving professionalism among lawyers is to begin at the early stages with law students.

During the past year, the Supreme Court Committee held 11 town hall meetings statewide with attorneys, judges and community representatives examining the need for professionalism and ways to achieve it.

The Special Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism was established by the Court in November, 2001.

WHEN: Justice Garman will administer the oath Wednesday, August 18 at 9:45 a.m.

WHERE: University of Illinois College of Law, David Kinley Hall, Room 114,
1407 W. Gregory Drive, Champaign