

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 6, 2004

**SUPREME COURT NAMES QUINCY ATTORNEY TO CIRCUIT COURT**

The Supreme Court of Illinois announced Tuesday the appointment of Quincy attorney William Mays to fill the Circuit Court vacancy in the Eighth Judicial Circuit. The vacancy was created by the retirement of Judge Dennis K. Cashman.

Mays, 51, is a partner in the law firm of Mays, Walden & Anastas of Quincy; a former public defender and assistant state's attorney in Adams County; an assistant city attorney for Quincy and public administrator and guardian for Adams County since 1982.

He was recommended by Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman from among eight candidates who submitted their credentials and qualifications to a Judicial Screening Committee formed by Justice Garman. The screening committee was made up of four non-lawyers and three lawyers, all of whom reside in the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

The appointment of Mays is effective November 5, 2004 and terminates December 4, 2006.

"We wish to congratulate Bill Mays on his appointment to fill the judicial vacancy of the Honorable Dennis Cashman," said Eighth Circuit Chief Judge Thomas L. Brownfield in a statement. "We know that his integrity, vast experience and dedicated professionalism will serve the people well."

Judge Brownfield also expressed gratitude to Justice Garman for promptly recommending the vacancy be filled notwithstanding budgetary considerations. "We realize that the state's fiscal problems have resulted in budget constraints for the (Supreme) Court," Judge Brownfield said. "However, Justice Garman recognized that we needed this appointment to effectively serve the people of the Eighth Circuit, and zealously proceeded to fill it. The prompt and professional manner in which she did so is greatly appreciated."

Mr. Mays is a graduate from Quincy Senior High School, earned a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Valparaiso University and his Juris Doctorate degree from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago in 1981.

He is married to Sharon A. Mays, and the couple has four children.