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**JUSTICE PHILIP J. RARICK TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW ATTORNEYS**

Justice Philip J. Rarick of the Supreme Court of Illinois will preside and administer the attorney's oath when 129 new attorneys are admitted to practice in ceremonies in Collinsville on Thursday, November 4.

The group is among 2,072 men and women who were certified as candidates and will be sworn in as Illinois attorneys at ceremonies in the state's five Supreme Court judicial districts.

The Collinsville program in the Fifth Judicial District will begin at 2 p.m. at the Gateway Convention Center, which is located near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Interstates 55/70 in Collinsville.

Justice Rarick will preside over the ceremony, and welcome the members of the class, their families and friends.

Herb Franks, who is past-president of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), will be the opening speaker. Mr. Franks is partner with the law firm of Franks, Gerkin & McKenna in Marengo.

Peter C. Alexander, dean of the Southern Illinois University School of Law, will be the second speaker.

Circuit Court Judge Charles Romani from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit will make the motion to admit the class. Circuit Court Judge Jerry Flynn from the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit will second the motion to admit.

**MORE**

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: Appellate Court Judge James K. Donovan from the Fifth Judicial District; and Circuit Court Judges Daniel J. Stack from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit, Annette C. Eckert from the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit plus Dennis B. Doyle from the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

A reception will follow.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination and an ethics examination; and were certified by the Committee on Character and Fitness.

The new attorneys will bring the total number of licensed attorneys in Illinois to approximately 81,000.

Media coverage is invited.

The counties in the Fifth District of the Supreme Court are: Christian, Shelby, Montgomery, Bond, Fayette, Effingham, Jasper, Crawford, Lawrence, Richland, Clay, Wayne, Marion, Jefferson, Clinton, Washington, St. Clair, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Hamilton, White, Edwards, Wabash, Gallatin, Saline, Williamson, Jackson, Union, Johnson, Pope, Hardin, Alexander, Pulaski and Massac.

Ceremonies in the other districts will be held in Chicago, Springfield, Rock Island and Elgin.