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**JUSTICE LLOYD A. KARMEIER TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW
ATTORNEYS**

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier will preside and administer the attorney's oath when 140 new attorneys are admitted to practice in ceremonies in Collinsville on Thursday, May 4.

The group is among 776 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 Route 157 and Interstates 55/70 in Collinsville.

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

Irene F. Bahr, president-elect of the Illinois State Bar Association, will be the opening speaker. Ms. Bahr, a sole practitioner in Wheaton, has been active in the ISBA since 1977. Circuit Court Judge James Wexstten from the 2nd Judicial Circuit, will also speak. Judge Wexstten also serves as president of the Illinois Judges Association.

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: Chief Circuit Judges Ann Callis from the 3rd Judicial Circuit and Jan V. Fiss from the 20th Judicial Circuit; and Circuit Judge Kevin S. Parker from the 4th Judicial Circuit.

A reception will follow.

MORE

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 82,000.

Media coverage is invited.

The counties in the Fifth Judicial District 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, Ottawa and Elgin.

For more information contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312/793-2323.