

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 30, 2010**

**SUPREME COURT NAMES REGINA KWAN PETERSON  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ILLINOIS BOARD OF  
ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR**

The Illinois Supreme Court has announced the appointment of Regina Kwan Peterson to be Director of Administration for the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar. Ms. Peterson, an Illinois attorney who has been associated with the Board and the admissions process for the past 18 years, began her duties this month.

The Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar is an appointed body of the Illinois Supreme Court. It is responsible for all aspects of the bar admission process, including the twice yearly administration of bar examinations and the oversight of the Committee on Character and Fitness. Its mission is to try to ensure that only persons of good moral character possessing the general fitness to practice law are licensed as Illinois attorneys. It is totally funded by the license fees of lawyers, not by taxpayer money.

Ms. Peterson was recommended unanimously by the seven-member Board after a nationwide search. Her experience makes her unusually knowledgeable about the Board's mission and procedures.

Beginning in 1992, Ms. Peterson served for 10 years on the Character and Fitness Committee for the First Judicial District (Cook County). She has been a bar exam essay grader since March 1998, participating in the grading process for the past 12 years. She also has been scrivener for the Committee on Character and Fitness, and has drafted opinions for Hearing Panels in the First, Second and Fifth Judicial Districts.

"Her experience makes Ms. Peterson extremely qualified for this very important position," said Board President Neil K. Quinn. "We received more than 100 applications for the position and Regina clearly was our unanimous choice. In addition to her familiarity with the Board and its processes, she has extensive experience in both private practice and community service, which will provide invaluable assistance to the Board in fulfilling its mission. "

Ms. Peterson will lead a staff of 20 and will report directly to the Board. She succeeds Jan Hefli, who retired after nearly 22 years as administrative director.

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“Ever since I attended my first Character and Fitness Committee meeting over 18 years ago, I have cared deeply about the mission and work of the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar,” Peterson said. “Working with the Board through the years has provided me with some of the most rewarding experiences of my legal career.

“It is a tremendous privilege for me to serve the Illinois Supreme Court and the Board of Admissions to the Bar as the Board’s new Director of Administration. I am grateful to both the Court and the Board for the trust and confidence they have placed in me.”

A practicing attorney for over 26 years, Ms. Peterson has been owner of KF & Associates in Oak Park, a firm she founded in 2007 which specializes in law-related research and data collection services.

She worked in the private practice of law since her admission to the bar in 1983 and has been engaged in general litigation practice, aviation defense, toxic torts, environmental impairment and professional liability.

Ms. Peterson was an active member, officer and director of the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Chicago Area during its formative years and was a recipient of the Association's Distinguished Member Award.

She has an extensive record of community service, including her election to two four-year terms to the Board of Education for Oak Park and River Forest High School, District 200, including a term as president.

Ms. Peterson received her *juris doctor* degree from Loyola University of Chicago School of Law in 1983 and was Executive Editor of the Loyola Law Journal from 1982-1983. Also during that time, Ms. Peterson served as extern for U.S. District Court Judge John A. Nordberg of the Northern District of Illinois.

In addition to Mr. Quinn, other members of the Board are: Donald H. Funk, secretary-treasurer, of Springfield; David W. Andich, Rock Island; Theodore L. Kuzniar, St. Charles; Lawrence N. Hill, Chicago; James R. Carroll, Chicago; and John P. Long, O’Fallon.