

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 3, 2010

**JUSTICE GARMAN ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF JUDICIAL  
SCREENING COMMITTEE TO FILL VACANCY IN SIXTH CIRCUIT**

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman announced Friday the formation of a judicial screening committee to help fill a vacancy in the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

Justice Garman established the screening committee to assess the qualifications of those persons who have applied for appointment to the Circuit Court vacancy created by the November 3, 2010 retirement of Judge Theodore E. Paine. Under the Illinois Constitution, judicial vacancies are filled by Supreme Court appointment.

After the committee has received public input, gathered information and interviewed each of the applicants, it will report its findings to Justice Garman, who will make a recommendation to the Supreme Court from among those applicants submitting their credentials to the committee. The person appointed to fill the vacancy will serve until December 3, 2012, when the position will be filled by the 2012 General Election.

The screening committee consists of seven persons who reside in the Sixth Judicial Circuit. Four of the committee members are non-lawyers and three are lawyers.

The non-lawyer members of the committee are Decatur residents Ronald Drane, Paula Finn and Peggy Smith Luy along with Champaign resident Dr. Lawrence Jeckel, M.D.

The lawyer members of the committee are Heidi R. Balsley and Richard L. Heavner of Decatur, and Randall Rosenbaum of Champaign.

Paula Finn will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Applicants who will be screened by the committee are: Decatur attorneys John Davis, Brian Finney, Thomas Griffith, Monica Hawkins, Bridget Hogan, Steven Langhoff, Scott Reuter, Brian Shaw and Timothy Tighe.

**MORE**

**Justice Garman Announces Screening Committee  
Add One**

Members of the public are invited to submit comments concerning the applicants by writing to Heidi Balsley, secretary, Sixth Circuit Judicial Screening Committee, 2200 E. Eldorado Street, Decatur, IL 62521. Comments should be received by the committee before **Wednesday, December 15, 2010**. All comments will be held in the strictest confidence by the committee and the Court.

The Sixth Judicial Circuit is comprised of six counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie and Piatt.

–30–

**(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323)**