



Supreme Court of Illinois

Joseph R. Tybor
Director of Communications

222 North LaSalle Street, 13th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Telephone (312) 793-2323
Mobile (312) 636-0479
Fax (312) 793-0871

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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 for 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 upcoming retirement of Judge John P. Shonkwiler on July 31, 2012. Under the Illinois Constitution, the vacancy will be 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 then 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 1, 2014, when the position will be filled by the 2014 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 Champaign resident Dr. Lawrence Jeckel, M.D., Cerro Gordo resident Dan Mogged and Monticello residents Kelly Finet and Ed Williams.

The lawyer members of the committee are Hon. Frank Lincoln (retired) of Tuscola, Glenn Stanko of Champaign and William Tracy II of Monticello.

Dr. Lawrence Jeckel will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Applicants who are considered for appointment to the judgeship and will be screened by the committee are: David K. Cox, William H. Finson, John W. Foltz, Dana C. Rhoades, Roger Simpson and Gary A. Webber, all of Monticello; Debra A. Seaton of South Holland; Timothy J. Tighe of Decatur; and Shig W. Yasunaga of Champaign.

MORE

**Justice Garman Announces Screening Committee
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Members of the public are invited to submit comments concerning the applicants by writing to Kelly Finet, secretary, Sixth Judicial Circuit Screening Committee, P.O. Box 17, Monticello, IL 61856. Comments should be received by the committee before **5 p.m. on Monday July 9, 2012**. 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.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, director of communications to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323 or Dawn Frison Cook, assistant press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.0870)