



# Supreme Court of Illinois

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## **SUPREME COURT APPOINTS LONGTIME ASSOCIATE JUDGE JAMES HACKETT AS CIRCUIT JUDGE**

The Illinois Supreme Court and Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier announced Tuesday the appointment of longtime Associate Judge James Hackett to be a resident Circuit Judge in the Third Judicial Circuit. He will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Chief Judge Ann Callis.

Judge Hackett is an experienced jurist. He first was selected as an associate judge in 1995 and has been appointed by his colleagues to four successive 4-year terms.

"Judge Hackett has been a fine, respected associate judge for many years," said Chief Judge David Hylla of the Third Judicial Circuit. "I am very happy to have him added to our Circuit bench. I am confident that he will be a fine Circuit Court judge."

Under the Illinois Constitution, the Supreme Court is given the authority to fill judicial vacancies by interim appointment until the next election. The position will be filled by the decision of the voters in Madison County at the November 2014 election.

His appointment is effective June 7, 2013 and will expire December 1, 2014.

"I am grateful to Justice Karmeier and the Supreme Court for this continued opportunity to serve in our courts," Judge Hackett said. "I will do my best."

Prior to his appointment as an associate judge in 1995, Judge Hackett was engaged in private practice with Meyer & Hackett in Alton. He also served as city attorney for the City of Edwardsville and as special public defender for Madison County.

Since his judicial appointment, Judge Hackett has served in all divisions of the circuit court, with the primary assignment to the felony division since 2000. He has been certified as a mentor of new judges and also helps evaluate the judicial performance of his peers.

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A graduate of Edwardsville Senior High School, Judge Hackett received his undergraduate degree from St. Louis University. He received his *juris doctor* degree from St. Louis University School of Law.

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