



Supreme Court of Illinois

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

Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Rita B. Garman announced Friday the formation of a judicial screening committee for the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

Chief Justice Garman established the screening committee to assess the qualifications of those persons who have applied for appointment to the resident Circuit Court vacancy created by the death of Judge Garry W. Bryan. Under the Illinois Constitution, the Supreme Court holds the authority to fill interim judicial vacancies until the next General Election.

After the committee has received public input, gathered information and interviewed each of the applicants, it will report its findings to Chief 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 5, 2016, when the position will be filled by the 2016 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 Clinton residents Dr. Monica DeGrauwe, Dave Jackson, and Myra Stroud; and Farmer City resident Dick Maxwell.

The lawyer members of the committee are Nancy Handegan of Decatur, Lott Thomas of Champaign, and William Tracy II of Monticello.

Myra Stroud will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Applicants who are considered for appointment to the judgeship and will be screened by the committee are: Robert Carter of Bloomington; Richard Goff, Kevin Hammer, Karle Koritz, and Stephanie Scoles, of Clinton; and Steven Thomas of Monticello.

MORE

**Chief Justice Garman Announces Screening Committee
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Members of the public are invited to submit comments concerning the applicants by writing to: Nancy Handegan, member, Sixth Judicial Circuit Screening Committee, P.O. Box 467, Decatur, IL 62525-0467. Comments should be received by the committee before **Friday, October 24, 2014**. All comments will be held in the strictest confidence by the committee and the Court.

The Sixth Judicial Circuit includes Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie, and Piatt counties.

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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, senior communications specialist to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.0870)