



Supreme Court of Illinois

March 18, 2021

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT APPOINTS ARCHAMBEAULT AS AT-LARGE JUDGE IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Justice Robert L. Carter and the Supreme Court of Illinois have announced the appointment of Associate Judge Dinah J. Lennon Archambeault as an At-Large Circuit Court Judge in the 12th Judicial Circuit.

“I thank Justice Carter and the Illinois Supreme Court Justices for having the confidence in my ability to serve as a circuit judge in the 12th Judicial Circuit,” Judge Archambeault said. “I will continue to work hard and do my best on the bench as well as contribute my time and energy to the various committees on which I serve, both in my circuit and on committees to which I’ve been appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court. I am truly humbled by the appointment and honored to serve as a circuit court judge.”

Judge Archambeault is being appointed to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Richard C. Schoenstedt. The appointment takes effect on March 31, 2021, and will conclude on December 5, 2022, when the vacancy will be filled by the winner of the November 2022 general election.

“I would like to congratulate Judge Archambeault on this appointment. She has the legal background and experience to do an excellent job,” 12th Circuit Chief Judge Daniel Kennedy said. “Judge Archambeault has served as an associate judge for the last 15 years and I look forward to continuing to work with her in this new position.”

Justice Carter recommended the appointment to the full Court following a review of applicants by a seven-person screening committee, which included four attorneys and three non-attorneys. The attorneys were 12th Circuit Chief Judge Daniel L. Kennedy, the Hon. Richard C. Schoenstedt (retired), John Spesia, a partner at Spesia & Taylor, and Jaya Varghese, the Felony Chief with the Will County Public Defender's Office. The non-attorneys were Mike Clemmons, a business manager with IBEW Local 176, Yolanda Reyes, an office manager at Prairie State Legal Services, and Vanessa Romeo, a professor at Joliet Junior College. The Hon. Richard C. Schoenstedt served as the chair of the screening committee.

Judge Archambeault has served as an Associate Judge in the Domestic Relations Division of the 12th Judicial Circuit since 2007. Prior to joining the bench, she worked in private practice in the area of civil litigation for 17 years, predominantly at the Law Offices of Spesia, Ayers & Ardaugh.

Judge Archambeault earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the Lewis University, her *Juris Doctorate* from The John Marshall Law School, and her Masters of Law from the Duke University School of Law.

Judge Archambeault is a Member of the Judicial Conference of Illinois since 2015 serving on the Committee on Education. She was previously the Chair of the Complex Litigation Committee, co-chair of the Civil Justice Committee, and Chair of the Social Media Subcommittee. She is also currently the co-chair of the Will County Justice Access Corps.

Her affiliations include the Illinois State Bar Association, the Judge's Association, the Will County Bar Association, where she is a past President, and the Will County Women's Bar Association.

Judge Archambeault has been the recipient of the Athena Award by the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Woman of the Year Award by the Zonta Club of the Joliet Area, and was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from The John Marshall Law School in 2015.

The 12th Judicial Circuit is comprised of the entirety of Will County.

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