



**ILLINOIS STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION**

2016 PRIMARY ELECTION

Judicial Candidates Seeking to Fill Judicial Vacancies

Appellate Court – First District - Epstein vacancy

Eileen O’Neill Burke - Qualified

Eileen O’Neill Burke was elected to the Circuit Court in 2008, retained in 2014 and currently sits in the Law Division on the Commercial Call. Since becoming a judge, she has served various courts of the First Municipal District until joining the Law Division in 2013. Before election to the bench, she had been in private practice after first starting out in the State’s Attorney’s Office. Judge Burke gets high marks from attorneys for her legal knowledge and ability. She has written over 300 opinions on different motions and legal issues and handles a high volume court call. Judge Burke is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Appellate Court.

Appellate Court – First District - Quinn vacancy

Bertina E. Lampkin – Highly Qualified

Bertina E. Lampkin has been sitting on the Appellate Court by appointment since 2009. She was elected to the Circuit Court in 1992 after serving as an Associate Judge for five years. Prior to her appointment to the bench she had worked for the State’s Attorney’s Office and the City of Chicago’s Department of Law, gaining experience in both criminal and civil litigation. Before her appointment to the Appellate Court, she has been assigned to the felony trial Courts at the Leighton Criminal Court Building, where she was considered to be a knowledgeable and hardworking judge. On the Appellate Court she is receives high marks for her legal knowledge and her diligence. She issues written opinions in a timely manner that are well thought out, and she is always prepared for oral arguments. She is also a member of various Supreme Court Committees. Judge Lampkin is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Appellate Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County –Biebel vacancy – all ballots
--

John Fitzgerald Lyke, Jr. – Qualified

John Fitzgerald Lyke, Jr. was admitted to practice in 1994. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in July 2015. Prior to his appointment, he was a sole practitioner concentrating in criminal defense and an Administrative Hearing Officer for the City of Chicago – Department of Business Affairs and Licensing. In his earlier career, he was an Assistant State’s Attorney. He is considered to have good legal knowledge and ability with a sufficient background in litigation. Judge Lyke is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Elrod vacancy – all ballots
--

Scott Edward Lipinski – Qualified

Scott Edward Lipinski has been licensed since 2002. He has spent his entire career with the Public Defender’s Office, currently assigned to the Bridgeview Courthouse. He has jury and bench trial experience and is considered to be knowledgeable and competent. There are mixed opinions on his temperament, with comments ranging from respectful to arrogant. Mr. Lipinski is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Rossana Patricia Fernandez - Qualified

Rosanna Patricia Fernandez was admitted to practice in 1997. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in February 2015. Before her appointment, she was in private practice doing personal injury litigation. She has substantial trial experience with good legal ability and temperament. Judge Fernandez is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Hogan vacancy – all ballots
--

Michael I. O’Malley – Qualified

Michael I. O’Malley was admitted to practice in 2005. He works for the State’s Attorney’s Office in the Civil Bureau. He has been assigned to several different areas of his office and has handled cases involved complex financial crimes. He has substantial litigation experience and has good legal knowledge and a professional demeanor. Mr. O’Malley is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Alison C. Conlon - Qualified

Alison C. Conlon was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2015. She was admitted to practice in 2000, and after a stint as a law clerk to Federal Judge Charles Kocoras, she did tort and commercial litigation for two firms: Wildman Harrold and Barnes and Thornburg. She was a partner in both firms and handled some pro bono cases. She receives high praise for her intelligence, diligence and temperament, and litigated some complex cases. She served on the hearing board for the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and has been active in bar association activities. Judge Conlon is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Howlett vacancy – all ballots
--

Aleksandra “Alex” Gillespie – Qualified

Aleksandra Gillespie was admitted to practice in 1993. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to her appointment she was a prosecutor with the State’s Attorney’s Office prosecuting felonies as a First Chair. She has substantial jury and bench trial and motion experience in complex cases. As a prosecutor, she was considered to be an excellent litigator, always prepared and professional. Judge Gillespie is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Thomas Maloney Cushing – Qualified

Thomas Maloney Cushing was admitted to practice in 1988 and is in private practice with Christopher Kreid and Associated doing commercial and chancery litigation. His prior experience includes being Senior Vice President at the Chicago Climate Exchange, and being a private practitioner specializing in personal injury and malpractice litigation. During that time he also acted as assisting counsel to the Shakman Decree monitor. He has substantial litigation experience in complex civil matters, and is regarded as a thoughtful, excellent attorney with a low-key demeanor. He has extensive professional and community involvement, including serving as a hearing board member for the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission. Mr. Cushing is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Johnson vacancy – all ballots
--

Gregory Raymond LaPapa – Not Recommended

Gregory Raymond LaPapa declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. LaPapa is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Sean S. Chaudhuri - Qualified

Sean S. Chaudhuri was admitted to practice in 2001. He owns his own general litigation firm with a concentration in family law and domestic relations. Prior to establishing his firm in 2011, he was employed at a small firm at Chicago Title and Trust, and at Leeders and Associated where he was a partner. Mr. Chaudhuri does have jury and bench litigation experience and is considered to have good legal ability and temperament. Mr. Chaudhuri is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Mark A. Lyon – Qualified

Mark A. Lyon was licensed in 1986. He is a supervising assistant public defender for the DuPage County Public Defender’s Office. His background also includes work as a private criminal defense lawyer and seven years doing capital cases with the State Appellate Defender. He has extensive complex jury and appellate experience. He is known for his work in forensics and has received stellar marks for his skills, knowledge and level-headedness. In addition, he participates extensively in community activities. Mr. Lyon is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Carolyn J. Gallagher – Qualified

Carolyn J. Gallagher was admitted to practice in 1982. She is a sole practitioner with a varied commercial, real estate and appellate litigation practice, on both the state and federal level. She receives high marks for her legal knowledge and is considered an excellent writer and researcher. Ms. Gallagher is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Bonnie Carol McGrath – Not Recommended

Bonnie Carol McGrath declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. McGrath is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Karnezis vacancy – all ballots

Mary Kathleen McHugh – Qualified

Mary Katherine McHugh was admitted to practice in 1993. She is in private practice as a partner at Parrillo Weiss LLC, specializing in personal injury and subrogation cases with some appellate work. She has substantial civil litigation experience and is respected for her legal knowledge, diligence and professionalism. Ms. McHugh is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Devlin J. Schoop – Qualified

Devlin J. Schoop was admitted to practice in 1997. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in August 2015. Prior to his appointment he was partner with Laner Muchin where he focused on complex commercial, employment and civil rights litigation. He has authored articles and been active in pro bono and civic matters, including serving on the Hearing Board of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission. He has extensive litigation experience in complex matters and is considered to be knowledgeable and well-prepared with high integrity. Judge Schoop is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Brian J. O’Hara – Not Recommended

Brian J. O’Hara declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. O’Hara is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Love vacancy – all ballots

Brendan A. O’Brien - Qualified

Brendan A. O’Brien has been licensed since 1996. He is a partner at Hinshaw and Culbertson focusing on insurance defense and medical malpractice cases. He has considerable litigation experience and is considered to be a good and diligent attorney. Mr. O’Brien is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – O’Brien vacancy – all ballots
--

Maureen O’Donoughue Hannon – Qualified

Maureen O’Donoughue Hannon was admitted to practice in 1991. She is a supervisor for the State’s Attorney’s Office in the Conflict Counsels Unit, where she defends Cook County offices, officials and employees in state and federal litigation. She handles complex matters and is considered knowledgeable and diligent with unquestioned integrity. She has been involved in some bar association activities. Ms. Hannon is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Palmer vacancy – all ballots

Pat Heneghan – Highly Qualified

Pat Heneghan was admitted to practice in 1983. He practices in the areas of complex commercial litigation, antitrust and professional malpractice, with some appellate work, and is an equity partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, formerly known as Schopt & Weiss. He has substantial complex litigation experience in both state and federal court and has an outstanding reputation for his legal knowledge, integrity and courtroom skills. He is involved with bar association and community activities. Mr. Heneghan is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Susana L. Ortiz – Qualified

Susana L. Ortiz was admitted to practice in 2001. She is a staff attorney at the Kent College of Law Legal Clinic, where she handles criminal defense cases and supervises law students. She has substantial trial and other litigation experience in complex matters and is reported to be a well-prepared, knowledgeable litigator with a good command of the law. Ms. Ortiz is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Deidre Baumann - Qualified

Deidre Baumann was admitted to practice in 1992 and owns a small firm focusing on personal injury, employment law, malpractice and general commercial litigation. She has done some appellate work and has litigated both jury and bench trials. She participates in community and bar association activities. On balance, most attorneys gave favorable marks to her litigation experience and reported that she has a good temperament. Ms. Baumann is found by be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Ruscitti-Grussel vacancy – all ballots

John E. Marszalek –

John E. Marszalek withdrew his candidacy from this race.

William S. Wojcik – Qualified

William S. Wojcik was admitted to practice in 1990. He is a sole practitioner concentrating on personal injury and medical negligence litigation. He has handled a number of jury trials and some appeals. He is considered to be smart, knowledgeable and diligent. Mr. Wojcik is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Daniel Patrick Duffy – Qualified

Daniel Patrick Duffy has been licensed in Illinois since 1995. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014 after a career in private practice with a background in civil litigations, insurance defense, and defense of claims against municipalities, with some appellate experience. Attorney who have appeared before Judge Duffy consider him to be very bright and hardworking. They report that he is respectful and impartial, and his courtrooms run efficiently and fairly. Judge Duffy has been involved with both state and federal litigation over a failed business venture that resulted in the U.S. Court of Appeals issuing sanctions for what the Court termed was a frivolous appeal. The matter is apparently in the process of being settled. Judge Duffy is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Monica M. Torres-Linares – Not Recommended

Monica M. Torres-Linares declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Torres-Linares is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Circuit Court – Cook County – Walsh vacancy – all ballots
--

Patrick Joseph Powers – Qualified

Patrick Joseph Powers has been licensed since 1987. He is a sole practitioner in the areas of domestic relations, real estate and criminal defense. He has some litigation experience and is a respected family law litigator known for his knowledge and diligence. Mr. Powers is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Fredrick H. Bates – Qualified

Fredrick H. Bates was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2015. Judge Bates was admitted to practice in 1983 and worked mainly in employment and labor law representing corporations, government entities and not-for-profits, including litigation experience. He also has experience as an administrative law judge, and in February 2015 he was appointed as chair of the Illinois Civil Service Commission. He is considered to be knowledgeable and diligent with great attention to detail. He is the past president of the Cook County Bar Association and has participated in bar activities. Judge Bates is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 1st Subcircuit – Brim vacancy

Jesse Outlaw – Qualified

Jesse Outlaw was admitted to practice in 1980. He has primarily been a solo practitioner handling bankruptcy, real estate, divorce, and probate matters. He also received Guardian Ad Litem appointments in the Probate Division. In addition, he represents some government agencies. He receives positive marks for his legal knowledge and ability, professionalism and diligence. Mr. Outlaw is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Maryam Ahmad - Qualified

Maryam Ahmad was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. She has been licensed since 2000 and has worked in private practice and for both the Cook County Public Defender and the State's Attorney's Office. In her private practice she specialized in criminal defense with some employment law. She received positive marks for her legal knowledge and ability, and considerable litigation experience. Judge Ahmad is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court

Circuit Court – Cook County – 1st Subcircuit – Hopkins vacancy
--

Anthony E. Simpkins – Qualified

Anthony E. Simpkins was admitted to practice in 1994. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to his appointment, he was the Deputy Commissioner for Housing Preservation for the Chicago Department of Housing. He also spent about ten years as the senior Counsel in the Building and Land Use Litigation Division of the Chicago Department of Law, handling civil litigation. He has substantial litigation experience and ability along with being diligent and even-keeled. He has some bar association and community involvement. Judge Simpkins is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Rhonda Crawford – Not Recommended

Rhonda Crawford declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Crawford is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Lisa A. Copland – Not Qualified

Lisa Copland was admitted to practice in 1997. She is in private practice concentrating in domestic relations. In addition, she has served as a court appointed guardian ad litem and appeared before DCFS hearings. She is active in pro bono work. While Ms. Copland is considered to be intelligent, professional and well-prepared, concerns were raised over her lack of any jury trial experience. Ms. Copland is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 2nd Subcircuit – Savage vacancy

Celeste K. Jones - Qualified

Celeste K. Jones has been licensed since 1995. She is currently a supervising attorney in the Accounts Department for the Cook County Public Guardian's Office after previously serving in several other divisions of the office. She has substantial litigation experience in various divisions of the Circuit Court system and is praised for her legal knowledge and ability. Ms. Jones is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Chelsey R. Robinson – Not Qualified

Chelsey Robinson was admitted to the bar in 1996. She is in private practice in a small firm handling civil and criminal litigation matters. In addition, she serves as legal advisor to the Judge Mathis television show. While she is considered to be well-prepared and even-keeled, concerns were raised during the evaluation process as to her lack of more recent and complex courtroom litigation. Ms. Robinson is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

D. Renee Jackson – Not Recommended

D. Renee Jackson declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Jackson is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Travis Richardson – Qualified

Travis Richardson has been licensed since 1997. He has spent most of his career in private practice, litigating in both state and federal court and before administrative agencies in both civil and criminal matters. In addition, he has been a hearing officer for the Chicago Board of Elections. He has substantial litigation experience in complex matters and is considered to be professional, knowledgeable and even-tempered. Mr. Richardson is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 4th Subcircuit – Kunkle vacancy

Edward J. King – Qualified

Edward J. King was admitted to practice in 1981. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to his appointment, he worked as a sole practitioner doing personal injury, chancery, estates, and criminal defense. He also represented municipal entities and state agencies. He has substantial jury and bench litigation experience. He is considered to be a strong advocate with a collegial demeanor and high integrity. Judge King is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 5th Subcircuit – Eadie-Daniels vacancy
--

Jameika Mangum – Not Recommended

Jameika Mangum declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Mangum is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Leonard Murray – Highly Qualified

Leonard Murray was admitted to practice in 1974. He was elected as associate judge in 2007, assigned to the First Municipal Division presiding over jury trials. Prior to his selection as an associate judge, he had been in private practice handling a wide variety of cases with a number of jury trials and some appellate work. He is well-respected for his knowledge and receives generally positive remarks as a judge. In his prior assignment hearing forcible entry and detainer cases, he was praised for his ability to manage a high-volume call with many pro se litigants. He has been involved in many bar association activities. Judge Murray is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 5th Subcircuit – Stuart vacancy

Freddrenna M. Lyle - Qualified

Freddrenna M. Lyle was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1980. She was first appointed to the Circuit Court in 2011 and has subsequently been reappointed, most recently in 2014. She is assigned to the Elder Law Division. She was elected to the Chicago City Council in 1998 from the 6th Ward and served for thirteen years. She had been in private practice and litigated in both state and federal courts. She is considered to be knowledgeable, efficient and a hard worker who knows and understand the law. Judge Lyle is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 5th Subcircuit – Williams-Hayes vacancy

Daryl Jones – Not Qualified

Daryl Jones has been licensed since 2005. He is currently a member of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board and formerly was senior legal advisor and chief of Intergovernmental Affairs at the Illinois Department of Corrections. Prior to that he worked at the State's Attorney's Office. He is considered to be professional and well-prepared, and he has some litigation experience from his time as a prosecutor. Concerns are raised, however, over his lack of recent and complex litigation, and over the depth and breadth of his relatively brief legal career. Mr. Jones is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Robin Denise Shoffner – Qualified

Robin D. Shoffner was admitted to practice in 1990. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to her appointment, she worked for the City of Chicago Department of Law doing civil litigation defense, appearing mainly in federal court. She had also worked in private practice and as a litigation counsel for AON Corporation. She has substantial litigation experience and as an attorney, was considered to be very knowledgeable, always prepared and professional. Judge Shoffner is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 6th Subcircuit – Ponce de Leon vacancy
--

Eulalia “Evie” De La Rosa – Qualified

Eulalia De La Rosa was admitted to practice in 2004. She has worked for the Public Defender's Office for the past eleven years, and is currently assigned to the felony trial division. She has considerable jury and bench experience and is praised for her legal knowledge and ability. She is considered diligent and hard-working, with a good temperament, and is particularly commended for her ability to represent clients with mental health issues. Ms. De La Rosa is found to be **Qualified** to election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 6th Subcircuit – Santiago vacancy

Richard C. Cooke – Qualified

Richard C. Cooke was admitted to practice in 1992. He is a solo practitioner and previously worked for a firm doing insurance defense and then for CNA Insurance as a trial attorney. He has handled contracts, personal injury cases, divorces, and business deals, including some complex litigation and transactional matters. He considered to be knowledgeable in his practice areas, professional and meticulous. He runs a self-funded pro bono legal clinic in conjunction with Casa Central, serving primarily a Hispanic clientele. Mr. Cooke is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 6th Subcircuit – Additional Judgeship A

Anna Loftus – Qualified

Anna Loftus has been licensed since 1988. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014 and is currently assigned to Mortgage Foreclosures. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner at Hall, Prangel and Schoonveld, concentrating on medical malpractice cases and appellate work. She has substantial litigation experience and as an attorney was well-regarded for her legal ability and hard work. Judge Loftus is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Edward J. Underhill - Qualified

Edward J. Underhill was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1984. He has been with Masuda Funai Eifert & Mitchell since 1985 and has been a partner since 1997. Mr. Underhill's focus is on business litigation and counseling. Mr. Underhill is considered to be a solid practitioner with good legal ability and substantial litigation experience. Mr. Underhill is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Carlos Claudio – Not Recommended

Carlos Claudio declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. Claudio is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 7th Subcircuit – Burrell vacancy
--

Marianne Jackson – Highly Qualified

Marianne Jackson was admitted to practice in 1973. She was elected an associate judge in 1997 and was appointed as a full judge to the Circuit Court in 2014. She has been assigned to the Juvenile Justice Division since 1999. She had previously served as a Deputy United States Attorney, including as Chief of the Criminal Division, and as a private criminal defense attorney. She is highly regarded for her legal knowledge and ability and has been widely praised for her involvement with diversion programs at Juvenile Court. Judge Jackson is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 7th Subcircuit – Rivkin-Carothers vacancy

Patricia “Pat” S. Spratt – Qualified

Patricia S. Spratt has been licensed since 1991. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in September 2015. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner at Taft Stettinus & Hollister LLP and previously was at Shefsky and Froelich, where she handled trial and appellate work. She has extensive litigation experience doing complex civil cases in both federal and state court, and is highly respected for her wide range of knowledge and legal experience. She has participated in bar association and community activities as well as writing and lecturing. Judge Spratt is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Christopher J. Stuart – Not Qualified

Christopher J. Stuart was admitted to the bar in 1985. He has been in private practice for most of his career handling class actions involving antitrust, whistleblower, consumer fraud, and federal securities act claims. While it appears that he has litigated extensively in complex cases and is considered to be hard working, it was extremely difficult to ascertain the extent and nature of his most recent practice due to a lack of sufficient information. This raised concerns over the amount of recent and complex litigation. Mr. Stuart is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Jennifer Ballard – Not Recommended

Jennifer M. Ballard declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Ballard is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Mable Taylor – Not Recommended

Mable Taylor declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Ms. Taylor is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Patrick D. John - Qualified

Patrick D. John was admitted to practice in 1998. He is an associate with the Barclay Law Group, concentrating in family law and has been in private practice since being licensed. He is considered to be a diligent and skilled litigator in his area of practice, with a good temperament. Mr. John is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Rosa Silva – Qualified

Rosa Silva has been licensed since 2001. She currently works in the Felony Trial Division of the Public Defender's Office. She also spent a year in private practice doing divorce and real estate, and from 2002 to 2003 she worked for the Will County Public Defender. She has substantial criminal litigation experience including many jury trials and complex cases and gets high marks for her legal knowledge, ability, diligence, and organizational skills. She is also active in bar association and civic activities. Ms. Silva is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County- 9th Subcircuit – Berman vacancy
--

Thomas Peter Kougias – Not Qualified

Thomas Kougias has been licensed since 1988. He worked at the State's Attorney's Office from 1991 to 2012 and has been in private practice since 2012. While he has litigated many criminal cases, some attorneys have expressed concern about his litigation and courtroom management skills, diligence and punctuality. Mr. Kougias is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Jerry Esrig - Qualified

Jerry Esrig was admitted to practice in 1978. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2013 and subsequently reappointed. He currently sits in the First Municipal District. Prior to his appointment, he was in private practice doing commercial and personal injury cases. He has extensive trial experience in complex matters and has an impeccable reputation as an even-keeled, diligent and accomplished litigator. He also took pro bono cases. Judge Esrig is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 10th Subcircuit – Howard vacancy
--

Colleen Reardon Daly – Qualified

Colleen Reardon Daly was admitted to the bar in 1996. After thirteen years with the State's Attorney's Office, she opened a private practice specializing in criminal defense, juvenile law, traffic matters, appellate work, and administrative proceedings. She has conducted numerous jury and bench trials, including complex criminal matters, and is considered to have good legal knowledge and ability. She is diligent and professional with a good temperament. Ms. Daly is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Eve Marie Reilly – Qualified

Eve Marie Reilly was admitted to practice in 1997. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to her appointment, she had spent her legal career at the State's Attorney's Office where she obtained both trial court and appellate experience. She is considered to be hard-working and knowledgeable. Judge Reilly is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Michael John Malatesta – Qualified

Mark John Malatesta has been licensed since 1992. He owns and operates his own firm, concentrating in personal injury and other civil litigation. He has substantial litigation experience including trials, and is considered to be smart, proficient and well-prepared with a good demeanor. Mr. Malatesta is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Richard “Rick” Cenar, Jr. – Qualified

Richard Cenar, Jr. was admitted in 1986 and has spent the vast majority of his career in the State's Attorney's Office. He has worked in many different divisions and is currently a first-chair prosecutor in the Felony Trial Division. He has extensive litigation experience, including two years doing civil litigation from 1986 – 1988, and is considered to be a formidable, but fair, opponent by opposing counsel. He is also praised for his professional and calm demeanor. Mr. Cenar is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 11th Subcircuit – Kelly vacancy

Marc Martin – Qualified

Marc Martin was admitted to practice in 1987. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2014. Prior to his appointment, he was in private practice as a criminal defense attorney, mainly in federal court. As an attorney he was well-regarded in the legal community for his extensive legal knowledge and high integrity, and extensive litigation experience. Judge Martin is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

James DiChristofano – Not Recommended

James DiChristofano declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. DiChristofano is found to be **Not Recommended** for the election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Catherine Ann Schneider – Qualified

Catherine Ann Schneider was admitted to the bar in 1994. She is currently a senior staff attorney for Coordinated Advice & Referral Program for Legal Services (CARPLS), where she supervises staff attorneys providing free legal aid to low-income people. She also has done personal injury defense, commercial collections litigation and real estate work. She has an extensive background doing pro bono work. She has also published articles and worked as an arbitrator. She has sufficient litigation experience and is considered exceptionally smart with an excellent temperament. Ms. Schneider is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 11th Subcircuit – Zwick vacancy

William B. Sullivan – Qualified

William B. Sullivan was admitted to practice in 1992. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in June 2015. Prior to his appointment he was a sole practitioner concentrating in real estate and eviction cases, including some complex matters. As an attorney he was reported to be professional, diligent and experienced. He has been active in community affairs. Judge Sullivan is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 12th Subcircuit – Kazmierski vacancy
--

Louis George Apostol – Qualified

Louis George Apostol was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1980 and has been in private practice his entire career. He is currently the Executive Director and Counsel to the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board. He was also the Public Administrator of Cook County and as a Commissioner of the Illinois Court of Claims. He has also served as the general counsel to many closely held corporations, and he has substantial litigation regarding commercial matters in both state and federal court. He is considered to be a well-prepared and knowledgeable attorney with a good temperament. Mr. Apostol is found to be **Qualified** to election to the Circuit Court.

Marguerite Ann Quinn – Highly Qualified

Marguerite Ann Quinn was admitted to practice in 1986. In 2007 she was elected as an Associate Judge to the bench and has been retained ever since. She is currently assigned to the Skokie Courthouse where she hears primarily criminal matters. She has also presided over the specialized Veterans Court there. Prior to ascending to the bench, she was a prosecutor for twelve years and in private practice as well. Judge Quinn gets high marks for her legal knowledge and her fair treatment for all who appear in her courtroom. She is considered fair and impartial and is active in community matters. Judge Quinn is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Jennifer E. Bae – Qualified

Jennifer E. Bae was admitted to practice in 1997. She has been in private practice since 2000 after spending three years in the State's Attorney's Office. She has also been a member of the Merit Board of the Cook County Sheriff's Office. She handles mainly criminal defense with some civil and federal work. She has sufficient complex litigation experience, and is considered to be professional and always prepared. She has been a member of the Character and Fitness Committee as well. Ms. Bae is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Frank J. Andreou – Qualified

Frank J. Andreou has been licensed since 1995. Since 2002 he has been in private practice doing personal injury, employment and commercial litigation. He has substantial litigation experience and is well-respected for his above average legal knowledge and ability. He is involved in community and bar association affairs. Mr. Andreou is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Thomas William Flannigan – Not Qualified

Thomas Flannigan was admitted to practice in 1983. He is a sole practitioner doing mostly civil litigation. Early in his career he worked as an attorney in Japan and seemed to concentrate in international law; however, he later switched to other areas of law as well. He published articles and spoke about Japan during the 1990s. He is considered to be a competent attorney, but there are concerns over his lack of recent and complex trial and the depth of his more recent legal experience. Mr. Flannigan is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 12th Subcircuit – Mathein vacancy

Janet Cronin Mahoney – Not Qualified

Janet Cronin Mahoney has been licensed since 1987. She has spent her entire career at the State's Attorney's Office where she is a supervisor in the Appellate Division. While she is considered to be a competent and diligent appellate lawyer, there are concerns about her limited trial court experience and her lack of recent non-appellate litigation. Ms. Mahoney is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Adam Scott Mathein – Not Qualified

Adam Mathein has been licensed since 1997. He is in private practice at Mathein & Rostoker doing insurance litigation and subrogation work. He does not have adequate jury trial experience, and while he litigates many motions, the cases rarely go to trial. He is considered knowledgeable and hard-working in his area as well as professional. There are concerns, however, about the lack of complex litigation and trials and the limited nature of his experience. Mr. Mathein is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

James Leonard Allegretti - Qualified

James Leonard Allegretti was admitted to practice in 1978. He is in private practice and was an alderman in Park Ridge from 2005 to 2011. He has a strong background in traffic and DUI law. Since 2007 his practice has focused more on personal injury and workers' compensation cases, along with federal civil rights matters. He receives good marks for legal ability and demeanor, and has had some bar association involvement. Mr. Allegretti is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 12th Subcircuit – Tristano vacancy
--

Carrie Hamilton – Qualified

Carrie Hamilton was admitted to practice in 1996. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in July 2015. Prior to her appointment, she worked for the United States Attorney's Office, most recently as Deputy Chief of the Public Corruption Unit, handling several high-profile cases. She has extensive complex litigation experience and is praised for her legal ability, courtroom skills and temperament. Judge Hamilton is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

David. Studenroth – Qualified

David Studenroth has been licensed since 1987. After several years working for the State's Attorney's Office, in 1998 he opened his solo practice focusing on criminal defense. He has substantial trial experience and is considered knowledgeable with a good temperament and high character. He is active in his community. Mr. Studenroth is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 12th Subcircuit – Additional Judgeship A
--

James Edward Hanlon, Jr. – Qualified

James Edward Hanlon, Jr. has been licensed since 1984. He has spent his entire career in private practice with several different firms and had his own firm from 2008 to 2010. Since 2010, he has been with Novus Law, LLC as the director of Client Services. He has extensive experience in commercial litigation at both the state and federal level. He is considered to be a highly seasoned, very professional attorney who does good work. He is active in bar association and community affairs. Mr. Hanlon is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Allan W. Masters – Qualified

Allan W. Masters was admitted to practice in 1968. He served as a judge of the Circuit Court by appointment from 2001 to 2004. The majority of his career has been spent in private practice, doing mainly domestic relations cases with some chancery and personal injury work. Prior to becoming an attorney, he was a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is considered to be a good litigator who knows the law, although concerns have been raised over his temperament. Mr. Masters is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Alex Kaplan – Not Recommended

Alex Kaplan declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. Kaplan is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.

Steven A. Kozicki – Qualified

Steven A. Kozicki was admitted to practice in 1985. Before opening his own practice in 1998, he worked as both a prosecutor and public defender in DuPage County, as well as spending three years with a firm handling civil cases. In his practice, he does mostly criminal work, with some civil and immigration as well. He has substantial jury and other litigation experience and he is considered knowledgeable with strong legal skills and a polite demeanor. He has been active in bar association activities and written on domestic violence. Mr. Kozicki is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 13th Subcircuit – Fecarotta vacancy

Ketki “Kay” Steffen – Highly Qualified

Ketki Steffen was licensed in 1991. She was appointed in November 2015 to the Circuit Court. She also served as a Circuit Court judge by appointment from 2010 to 2013, and was then appointed to be an Administrative Law Judge for the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission from 2013 to 2015. Before her original appointment to the bench, she spent nineteen years with the State’s Attorney’s Office where she obtained extensive litigation experience. She is considered knowledgeable in a variety of areas of law and is highly regarded by attorneys who have appeared before her. Judge Steffen is found to be **Highly Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Kevin Michael O’Donnell – Not Qualified

Kevin O’Donnell has been licensed since 1988. He is a sole practitioner in Park Ridge who concentrates in estate planning, probate and some real estate. Most of this recent experience is transactional in nature. He has not tried any matters to a jury and has limited trial experience overall. He is praised for his knowledge of probate law and generally considered well-prepared. There are concerns about his limited trial experience and lack of recent complex litigation. Mr. O’Donnell is found to be **Not Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Gary W. Seyring - Qualified

Gary W. Seyring has been licensed since 1978. He is a sole practitioner and a CPA focusing on domestic relations, real estate, estate planning, and business law. He does have litigation experience in those areas. It is reported that he has good legal knowledge and is diligent with a good demeanor. Mr. Seyring is found to be **Qualified** for election to the Circuit Court.

Circuit Court – Cook County – 14th Subcircuit – Murphy vacancy
--

Matthew Link – Not Recommended

Matthew Link declined to participate in the judicial evaluation process. Mr. Link is found to be **Not Recommended** for election to the Circuit Court, pursuant to ISBA guidelines.