



## NOVEMBER 6, 2012 GENERAL ELECTION

### Judicial Candidates Seeking to Fill Judicial Vacancies

#### Supreme Court – 1<sup>st</sup> District

##### **James G. Riley – Qualified**

Hon. James G. Riley was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1996, and is currently assigned to the Probate Division. He was retained for six-year terms in 2002 and 2008.

Judge Riley has extensive knowledge of civil procedure and he is highly regarded for his command of the law and his integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. James G. Riley is **qualified** to serve as a justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois.

##### **Mary Jane Theis – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Mary Jane Theis was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2010. She was elected as an Associate Judge in 1983, as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1988, and as an Illinois Appellate Court Justice in 1994. She was retained as a justice for a ten-year term in 2004. Previous assignments in the Circuit Court include the Chancery Division, the Criminal Division, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. She has served as the Presiding Justice of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions of the Appellate Court.

Judge Theis is highly regarded for her extensive legal knowledge and abilities within various courtrooms. She is praised for her diligence, judicial temperament, and her integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Mary Jane Theis is **highly qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Supreme Court.

#### Appellate Court – 1<sup>st</sup> District

##### **Maureen Elizabeth Connors – Qualified**

Hon. Maureen E. Connors is currently assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> District, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division of the Appellate Court. She was appointed as an Associate Judge in 1988 and elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Judge Connors was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. She was appointed to the Appellate Court in 2010.

The Committee evaluation revealed that Judge Connors is praised for her legal knowledge and ability. She has shown excellent management skills, diligence, and judicial temperament as a trial judge. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Maureen E. Connors is **qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. Additionally, the Illinois State Bar Association finds her qualified for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Mathias Delort – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Mathias Delort currently serves in the Chancery Division, Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics Lien Section, and presides over Calendar 61. He was appointed as an Associate Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2007. Judge Delort was reappointed for four-year terms in 2007 and 2011.

Judge Delort demonstrated significant litigation experience practicing municipal and election law at both the trial and appellate court levels. He received positive marks for his legal knowledge and ability and for his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Mathias Delort is **highly qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court.

### **Nathaniel Howse – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Nathaniel Howse is currently assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Appellate Court, 6<sup>th</sup> Division. He was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1998. Previous assignments include 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, General Assignment, Supplemental Proceedings, and the County Division. He was retained for six-year terms in 2004 and 2010. In 2009, Justice Howse was appointed to the Appellate Court.

Judge Howse is praised for his litigation experience, his courtroom management skills, and for his legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Nathaniel Howse is **highly qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court.

### **Terrence Lavin – Qualified**

Hon. Terrence Lavin has served in the 1<sup>st</sup> District Appellate Court, 4<sup>th</sup> Division since his 2010 appointment. He was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1983. For most of his career, Judge Lavin was in private practice handling medical malpractice and personal injury matters.

Judge Lavin is recognized for his professional experience, which includes bar involvement and community service. He is praised for his legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, and diligence. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Terrence Lavin is **qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court.

### **P. Scott Neville, Jr. – Highly Qualified**

Hon. P. Scott Neville was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1999 and elected in 2000. Since June 2004, he has been sitting on the Appellate Court by appointment, and is currently assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> District, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. He was retained as a Circuit Court judge in 2006.

The Committee evaluation showed that Judge Neville is highly regarded for his legal knowledge and ability, experience on both the appellate and trial court levels, and for his integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. P. Scott Neville is **highly qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. Additionally, the Illinois State Bar Association finds him qualified for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Jesse G. Reyes – Qualified (*Appellate Court*)**

Hon. Jesse G. Reyes currently serves in the Chancery Division, hearing mortgage foreclosure matters. He was elected as an Associate Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1997.

Judge Reyes is praised for his professional experience, legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, and management skills in the courtroom. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Jesse G. Reyes is **qualified** to serve as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court.

### **Circuit Court – Cook County**

#### **Thomas R. Allen – Qualified**

Hon. Thomas R. Allen is currently assigned to Calendar 11 of the Probate Division. He served as a member of the Legislative Committee of the Supreme Court of Illinois. Before becoming a judge, he was a partner in a firm handling general practice, litigation, and transactional matters from 1990 to 2010. Judge Allen also served as a Chicago alderman from 1993 to 2010. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2011.

Judge Allen is considered to have good legal knowledge and ability within civil and criminal law. He is reportedly praised for his diligence, character, and judicial temperament in the courtroom. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Thomas R. Allen is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

#### **Larry G. Axelrod – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Larry G. Axelrod is currently assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Municipal District. He hears felony criminal matters and presides over two specialty courtrooms, Veterans Court and Mental Health Court. Previous assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Municipal Districts. Judge Axelrod became an Associate Judge in 2005. He was reappointed to four-year terms in 2007 and 2011.

Judge Axelrod is considered to have good legal knowledge and ability, to be diligent, and to have excellent courtroom management skills. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Larry G. Axelrod is **highly qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

#### **Carl B. Boyd – Not Qualified**

Carl B. Boyd was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1991. Since that time, he has been a general practitioner, representing individuals in bankruptcy and tort litigation. Mr. Boyd has participated with the Rainbow Push Legal Clinic and the Chicago South Community Development Organization.

Although Mr. Boyd is regarded as having adequate legal knowledge, there are concerns as to the limited scope of his practice and trial experience. Therefore, for the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Carl B. Boyd is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Tommy Brewer – Not Qualified**

Hon. Tommy Brewer currently serves in the Criminal Division, where he presides over felony preliminary hearings. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2010, and initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District until he moved to his current post. Before his appointment, he was a Chicago solo practitioner, a Cook County prosecutor, and chief hearing officer for the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. He is also a former FBI agent.

Judge Brewer has extensive experience in criminal law. However, the Committee evaluation revealed that his handling of personal financial obligations was questioned. This concern could adversely affect the integrity and character of the office sought. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Tommy Brewer is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Michael R. Clancy – Qualified**

Hon. Michael R. Clancy currently serves in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2011. Before his appointment, he was in private practice focusing on criminal defense matters and he served as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney.

Judge Clancy has excellent litigation experience in complex matters. He is praised for his legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, integrity, and diligence. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Michael R. Clancy is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Christine Cook – Qualified**

Christine Cook was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1990. She is currently an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney assigned to the Appellate Division. She previously served in the Complex Narcotics Division, the Criminal Appeals Division, and the Criminal Prosecution Bureau.

Ms. Cook is reported to have good legal knowledge and ability and an even temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Christine Cook is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Daniel R. Degnan – Not Qualified**

Daniel R. Degnan did not submit documentation for evaluation for the 2012 General Election; therefore in accordance with its guidelines regarding judicial candidates, for the 2012 General Election the Illinois State Bar Association determined that Daniel R. Degnan is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County for failure to complete the evaluation process.

### **Maureen Leahy Delehanty – Qualified**

Hon. Maureen Leahy Delehanty currently serves in the Child Protection Division. She was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1992. She served as a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney for most of her career. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2009. In 2010, she was transferred to the Child Protection Division and appointed to an additional term.

Judge Delehanty is considered to have excellent legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Maureen Leahy Delehanty is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **John H. Ehrlich – Qualified**

John H. Ehrlich was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1988. His previous experience includes serving in the Chicago Law Department and as a Chief Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Tort Division. Since 2003, he has been an adjunct professor at Northwestern University's School of Law.

It was reported that Mr. Ehrlich has extensive litigation experience. He received high praise for his legal knowledge and ability, and for his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined John H. Ehrlich is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Harry J. Fournier – Qualified**

Harry J. Fournier was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1997. He currently works as a solo practitioner on matters involving real estate and buying/selling businesses.

Mr. Fournier is regarded as being very sensitive to diversity and bias; his support for women actively involved in the Hellenic Bar Association was particularly noted. He received high marks for his diligence, legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Harry J. Fournier is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **John Terrence Gallagher – Qualified**

John Terrence Gallagher was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1988. He has been a solo practitioner, trying cases in the state and federal courts, since 1996. For the majority of his solo practice, he has represented individuals in criminal and civil matters. Mr. Gallagher also worked in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps between 1988 and 1992.

Mr. Gallagher is reported to have extensive litigation experience and ability. He is also held in high regard for his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined John Terrence Gallagher is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **William G. Gamboney – Qualified**

William G. Gamboney was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1977. He was in private practice before he became an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney. Mr. Gamboney served as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney from 1979 to 1994. Since 1994, he has been a solo practitioner handling mostly civil and criminal trials.

Mr. Gamboney is held in high regard for his litigation experience, character, and integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined William G. Gamboney is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Celia Louis Gamrath – Qualified**

Hon. Celia Louis Gamrath currently serves in the Domestic Relations Division. She was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1994. She has previously served as a judicial law clerk in the Illinois Appellate Court and as an attorney handling family law litigation, complex motion practice, and appeals. In 2010, Judge Gamrath was appointed to the Circuit Court.

Judge Gamrath is praised for her professional experience, which includes service work and extensive involvement in bar associations. She is considered to have substantial legal knowledge and ability, and integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Celia Louis Gamrath is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Deborah Jean Gubin – Qualified**

Hon. Deborah Jean Gubin currently serves in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. Previous experience includes being an Assistant Cook County Public Defender, General Counsel for the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions, and the Deputy General Counsel and Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

Judge Gubin is reported to have outstanding litigation experience, character, and diligence. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Deborah Jean Gubin is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Russell W. Hartigan – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Russell William Hartigan is currently assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1976. He has spent his entire career in private practice, with extensive litigation experience. Judge Hartigan was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2010.

Judge Hartigan is praised for his professional experience, which includes his current service as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Board of Governors. He received high marks for his legal knowledge and ability, and for his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Russell W. Hartigan is **highly qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Elizabeth Mary Hayes – Not Qualified**

Elizabeth Mary Hayes was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1986. She has held different positions including Hearing Officer and Court Coordinator in the Child Protection Division, and as a staff attorney with the Illinois Guardianship & Advocacy Commission, Legal Advocacy Services. Her most recent position is an Assistant Cook County Public Defender, which she started in 2010.

The Committee evaluation revealed concerns about the length and breadth of her experience for the office sought. Therefore, for the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Elizabeth Mary Hayes is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Lionel Jean-Baptiste – Qualified**

Hon. Lionel Jean-Baptiste was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1991. He started as a private practitioner in Evanston, Illinois. Since 2001, he has served as alderman for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward of Evanston, Illinois. Judge Jean-Baptiste was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2011.

Judge Jean-Baptiste is held in high regard for his professional experience, which involves many community service pro bono activities. He is also praised for his judicial temperament, legal knowledge and ability, and diligence. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Lionel Jean-Baptiste is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Martin C. Kelley – Qualified**

Martin C. Kelley was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1992. Since being admitted, Kelley has been in private practice focusing on civil litigation. He is currently a partner in his private practice.

Mr. Kelley is considered to be diligent with good legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Martin C. Kelley is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Pamela M. Leeming – Qualified**

Hon. Pamela M. Leeming is currently assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Municipal District. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2010, where she was initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. She ran in the 2010 Primary Election, but was unsuccessful at the time. The Illinois Supreme Court recalled Judge Leeming for another term.

Judge Leeming is highly regarded for her legal knowledge and ability in the courtroom, and for her judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Pamela M. Leeming is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Kimberly D. Lewis – Not Qualified**

Kimberly D. Lewis did not submit documentation for evaluation for the 2012 General Election; therefore in accordance with its guidelines regarding judicial candidates, for the 2012 General Election the Illinois State Bar Association determined that Kimberly D. Lewis is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County for failure to complete the evaluation process.

### **Laura Liu – Qualified**

Hon. Laura Liu has served in the Chancery Division since her appointment to the Circuit Court in 2010. She was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1991. Before coming to the bench, she was in private practice.

Judge Liu is reported to have good litigation experience and legal knowledge with good judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Laura Liu is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Aicha Marie MacCarthy – Qualified**

Aicha M. MacCarthy was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1997. She is currently a solo practitioner handling a variety of criminal and civil law matters, specifically probate and real estate matters. Previous positions include Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Aviation, Assistant to the Mayor at the Office of the Mayor, Financial Planning Analyst at the Department of Planning and Development, Staff Attorney/Hearing Officer at the Chicago Housing Authority, and Traffic Division Prosecutor at the Chicago Department of Law.

Ms. MacCarthy is considered to have excellent professional experience and legal knowledge and ability. She received high marks for her diligence and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Aicha M. MacCarthy is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Edward M. Maloney – Qualified**

Edward M. Maloney was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1978. He currently is a partner at Ahern, Maloney, Moran, &Block. Since 1991, he has served as the General Counsel to the Chicago Police Sergeant's Association Union.

Mr. Maloney is reported to have exceptional legal knowledge and ability, litigation experience, and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Edward M. Maloney is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Lisa Ann Marino – Qualified**

Lisa Ann Marino was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1988. She is currently a solo practitioner handling real estate and zoning matters. She has previously worked as an Assistant Cook County State’s Attorney for the Civil Division, Real Estate Tax Unit, and for cases involving misdemeanors, traffic offenses, and felony financial crimes.

Ms. Marino is praised for her judicial temperament and legal knowledge in her area of practice. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Lisa Ann Marino is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Diann Karen Marsalek – Qualified**

Hon. Diann Karen Marsalek was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1990. Judge Marsalek worked in the Illinois Attorney General’s Office for many years and also as a legal advisor for the Illinois Secretary of State. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2011 and is currently assigned to Traffic Court in the Daley Center.

The Committee evaluation indicated that Judge Marsalek is praised for her legal knowledge and ability, and for her judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Diann Karen Marsalek is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Michael Tully Mullen – Highly Qualified**

Michael Mullen was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1981. For most of his career, Mr. Mullen was in private practice focusing on personal injury cases. He also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Deputy Chief of Criminal Division and as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. From 2006 to present, he has served as Chairman of the Board of Fire and Police Commission at the Village of Western Springs.

Mr. Mullen is reported to have substantial litigation and professional experience. He received high marks for his legal knowledge and ability and for his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Michael Mullen is **highly qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Jessica A. O’Brien – Qualified**

Jessica A. O’Brien was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1998. Since 2000, she has served as a litigator with the Illinois Department of Revenue. With this department, she handles income and sale tax cases. She also serves as an arbiter of facts and law for non-hearing cases.

Ms. O’Brien has substantial litigation experience and is praised for her diligence. She shows excellent legal knowledge and professional experience, which includes her current service as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Board of Governors. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Jessica A. O’Brien is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.



### **Karen Lynn O'Malley – Qualified**

Karen Lynn O'Malley was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1992. She is currently in private practice handling personal injury litigation. Previous positions include serving as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney and as a Deputy Supervisor in the Child Advocacy Division of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

The investigation revealed an overwhelming opinion that Ms. O'Malley has outstanding litigation experience in civil and criminal law. She is praised for her diligence, integrity, and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Karen Lynn O'Malley is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Paul S. Pavlus –Qualified**

Paul S. Pavlus was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1991. For most of his career, he has served as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney. He is currently serving as Deputy Supervisor and Suburban Coordinator for Domestic Violence Courtrooms.

It is reported that Mr. Pavlus has exceptional knowledge and ability within his area of the law. He also has a good judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Paul S. Pavlus is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **James Paul Pieczonka – Not Qualified**

James Paul Pieczonka was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1983. He has been a solo practitioner handling transactional work and litigation for most of his professional career. He is also involved in real estate development matters. He currently serves as a Hearing Officer for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

The Committee evaluation raised concerns over Mr. Pieczonka's lack of significant litigation experience and his handling of personal financial obligations was questioned. These concerns may adversely reflect upon the integrity and character of the office sought. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined James Paul Pieczonka is **not qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Jean M. Prendergast Rooney – Qualified**

Hon. Jean Prendergast Rooney has been assigned to the Chancery Division since her 2010 appointment. Prior to her appointment, Judge Rooney was in private practice handling civil litigation and appeals. She also served as a law clerk to 1<sup>st</sup> District Appellate Court Justice Mary Jane Theis and Illinois Supreme Court Justice Mary Ann McMorrow.

Judge Rooney received high marks for her substantial litigation experience and legal abilities. She is praised for her diligence, integrity, and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Jean Prendergast Rooney is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Lorna Ellen Propes – Qualified**

Hon. Lorna Ellen Propes has been assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District since her appointment to the Circuit Court in 2010. Before her appointment, Judge Propes was in private practice handling product liability, medical malpractice, and personal injury litigation.

Judge Propes has substantial legal knowledge and ability within civil and criminal law. She is considered to have extensive professional experience and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Lorna Ellen Propes is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Cynthia Ramirez – Qualified**

Cynthia Ramirez was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1990. She is currently an administrative law judge with the Illinois Department of Public Health. Previous positions include practicing as an Assistant Cook County Public Defender and administrative law judge with the Illinois Department of Health Resources.

The investigation indicated that she is praised for her legal knowledge and ability and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Cynthia Ramirez is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Erica Reddick – Highly Qualified**

Hon. Erica Reddick has been assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District since her appointment in 2010. Prior to her appointment, she spent most of her career in the Office of Cook County Public Defender including being appointed as the Acting Chief of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District.

Judge Reddick is well regarded for her litigation experience and for her legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Erica Reddick is **highly qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Beatriz Santiago – Qualified**

Beatriz Santiago was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1996. She is currently an Assistant Cook County Public Defender, handling felony cases in the Juvenile Division. She has served as an Assistant Cook County Public Defender for most of her career, but she also was in private practice handling personal injury litigation.

Ms. Santiago is considered to have excellent legal knowledge and ability. She is praised for her diligence, character, and integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Beatriz Santiago is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Regina Ann Scannicchio – Qualified**

Hon. Regina Scannicchio was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1989. Since her admission, Judge Scannicchio had been in private practice. She was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2011 and she currently serves in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District.

Judge Scannicchio is considered to have substantial legal knowledge and ability, and litigation experience. She is highly regarded for her character and integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Regina Scannicchio is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Andrea M. Schleifer – Qualified**

Hon. Andrea M. Schleifer has served in the Domestic Relations Division since her appointment to the Circuit Court in 2010. Prior to her appointment, she was a solo practitioner focusing on family law matters for most of her career.

Judge Schleifer is considered to have exceptional litigation and professional experience, which includes community service and service to the legal profession. It is reported that she has great legal knowledge and ability and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Andrea M. Schleifer is **qualified** to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

## **Judges Seeking Retention in November 2012**

### **Appellate Court – 1<sup>st</sup> District**

#### **Hon. James Fitzgerald Smith - Qualified**

Hon. James Fitzgerald Smith is currently a justice in the 1<sup>st</sup> District Appellate Court of Illinois. He was appointed as an Associate Judge in 1989, and elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Justice Smith was retained for a six-year term in 2000. In 2002, he was elected to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Appellate Court. He has served as a presiding justice within his panel five times. He is also a member of numerous committees, including the Executive Committee and the Settlement Committee.

Justice Smith is well known for his diligence and impartiality. He is always professional and respectful of litigants and attorneys. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined that Hon. James Fitzgerald Smith is **qualified** for retention as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court.

### **Circuit Court – Cook County**

#### **Hon. Martin S. Agran – Qualified**

Hon. Martin S. Agran is currently assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Municipal District, and he is the Acting Presiding Judge when necessary. He was elected as an Associate Judge in 1989. He was appointed and subsequently elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Judge Agran was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. During his tenure as a judge, he has served in many different courtrooms, including the Child Protection Division, the Trial Section of the Law Division, the Chancery Division, and as a supervising judge in the Juvenile Justice Division. He came to his current post in 2011.

Judge Agran is reportedly diligent with good judicial temperament. He has substantial professional experience and excellent knowledge in the Chancery area of the law. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Martin S. Agran is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Patricia Banks – Qualified**

Hon. Patricia Banks is currently the Presiding Judge of the Elder Law and Miscellaneous Remedies Division. In 1994, she was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County and subsequently elected that same year. She was initially assigned to the Domestic Relations Division, and then she was transferred to the Law Division. Judge Banks was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Considered to have good legal knowledge and ability, Judge Banks is reported to treat everyone fairly and is diligent with her decisions. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Patricia Banks is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Ronald F. Bartkowicz – Qualified**

Hon. Ronald F. Bartkowicz is currently assigned to the Commercial Calendar of the Law Division. Previous judicial assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District and Domestic Relations. He was appointed as an Associate Judge in 1985 and appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1997. He was elected to the Circuit Court in 2000. Judge Bartkowicz was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Bartkowicz is reportedly very knowledgeable in substantive and procedural law; listens well and decides cases on law and facts. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Ronald F. Bartkowicz is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Carole Kamin Bellows - Qualified**

Hon. Carole Kamin Bellows is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division. She has been the Preliminary Judge and Leader of Team D within the Domestic Relations Division since 1987. Judge Bellows was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1986 and elected in 1988. She was retained for six-year terms in 1994, 2000 and 2006.

The Committee evaluation elicited an overwhelming response that Judge Bellows has excellent legal knowledge with an undiminished dedication to her craft. She is very approachable for pro se litigants and is considered a role model for other judges. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Carole Kamin Bellows is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Daniel Patrick Brennan - Qualified**

Hon. Daniel Patrick Brennan currently serves in the Mortgage Foreclosure and Mechanics Lien Section of the Chancery Division. Judge Brennan was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. He was initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, and then transferred to the 6<sup>th</sup> Municipal District until he came to his current post in 2011.

Judge Brennan is considered to be well prepared, conscientious, even-tempered, and to have high integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Daniel Patrick Brennan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Cynthia Brim – Not Qualified**

Hon. Cynthia Brim was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. She was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. She was in the 6<sup>th</sup> Municipal District presiding over Misdemeanor, Traffic Civil, Paternity, Child Support, Custody, Visitation, Domestic Violence, Bond hearings, and Ordinance Violation cases. Other previous judicial assignments include the Domestic Relations Division, the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Municipal District. Hon. Cynthia Brim has currently been removed from all judicial duties by Special Order No. 2012-14 of the Executive Committee of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

The Committee evaluation questioned Judge Brim’s legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Cynthia Brim is **not qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Rodney Hughes Brooks - Qualified**

Hon. Rodney Hughes Brooks is currently assigned to the Juvenile Justice Division. He was a “floater” judge within the Division until he was recently assigned to a permanent calendar. In 1994, he was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County and was initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District Traffic Court. He was transferred to his current Division in 1996. Judge Brooks was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Brooks is procedurally oriented and very diligent. He is punctual and has good judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Rodney Hughes Brooks is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Mary Margaret Brosnahan - Qualified**

Hon. Mary Margaret Brosnahan serves in the Criminal Division, where she is assigned to a felony trial courtroom. She was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000 and initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. Judge Brosnahan was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Brosnahan is considered to have good legal knowledge, ability, diligence, and high integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Mary Margaret Brosnahan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Gloria Chevere - Not Qualified**

Hon. Gloria Chevere is currently assigned as a “swing judge” in various branches within the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. She ran unopposed for a vacancy in the 6<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit in 2006 and was assigned to hear misdemeanor and felony ordinance offenses.

The Committee evaluation raised concerns over Judge Chevere’s diligence, legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Gloria Chevere is **not qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Matthew E. Coghlan - Qualified**

Hon. Matthew E. Coghlan currently serves in the Criminal Division, where he is assigned to a felony trial call. His previous judicial assignments include the Domestic Violence, felony preliminary hearings, and Traffic Court. Judge Coghlan was elected to the Circuit Court in 2000. He was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Coghlan is held in high regard for his professional experience and legal knowledge and ability. He is reportedly a very competent, diligent, and fair-minded jurist. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Matthew E. Coghlan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Grace Dickler - Qualified**

Hon. Grace Dickler is the Presiding Judge for the Domestic Relations Division. She was appointed as an Associate Judge in 1988 and subsequently elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. In 2010, she was the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Violence Division; she began her current post in 2011.

Judge Dickler is reported to have extensive legal knowledge and ability with high integrity. She has taken initiatives to improve procedures and practices as Presiding Judge. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Grace Dickler is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Christopher Donnelly – Not Qualified**

Hon. Christopher Donnelly is currently assigned to the 6th Municipal District, hearing traffic and misdemeanor cases. Prior to serving the 6<sup>th</sup> Municipal District, Judge Donnelly was assigned to the Juvenile Justice Division. In 1994, he was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County. Judge Donnelly was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Donnelly's litigation and professional experience along with his legal knowledge and ability are considered adequate. The Committee evaluation, however, revealed that there are concerns regarding his poor judicial temperament. In addition, Judge Donnelly failed to fully participate in the evaluation process by not completing the evaluation materials and refusing to answer questions posed during his interview. Therefore, in accordance with its guidelines for judicial candidates, for the 2012 General Election the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Christopher Donnelly is **not qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County for failure to complete the evaluation process.

### **Hon. Loretta Eadie-Daniels - Qualified**

Hon. Loretta Eadie-Daniels is currently assigned to the 6th Municipal District. She has been assigned to the 6<sup>th</sup> Municipal District since she was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000. Judge Eadie-Daniels was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Eadie-Daniels is considered to have adequate legal knowledge and ability and is considered impartial with sufficient experience. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Loretta Eadie-Daniel is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. James D. Egan – Not Qualified**

Hon. James Egan currently hears Motion Calendar X in the Law Division. He became a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1995. His previous assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District Traffic Court, 2<sup>nd</sup> Municipal District Criminal Court, and the Criminal Division. Judge Egan was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Egan did not submit documentation for evaluation for the 2012 General Election. Therefore, in accordance with its guidelines regarding judicial candidates, for the 2012 General Election the Illinois State Bar Association determined that Hon. James D. Egan is **not qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County for failure to complete the evaluation process.

### **Hon. Kathy M. Flanagan - Qualified**

Hon. Kathy M. Flanagan is currently the Supervising Judge within the Motion Section of the Law Division. She was elected to the Circuit Court in 1988, where she was initially assigned to the Domestic Relations Division. Judge Flanagan was retained for six-year terms in 1994, 2000, and 2006.

The Committee evaluation revealed that Judge Flanagan is considered tough but fair, works hard, and fully understands the law. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Kathy M. Flanagan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Ellen L. Flannigan - Qualified**

Hon. Ellen L. Flannigan is currently assigned to the Domestic Violence Division. She previously served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. In 2006, she was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County. Judge Flannigan unsuccessfully ran for the Appellate Court vacancy in the 2010 and 2012 primary election.

Judge Flannigan has demonstrated significant litigation experience and a good understanding of law both substantively and procedurally. She received very positive comments regarding her judicial temperament, legal knowledge and ability, diligence, and professional conduct. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Ellen L. Flannigan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Peter Flynn - Qualified**

Hon. Peter Flynn is currently assigned to the Chancery Division, Calendar 4. In 1999, Judge Flynn was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County and in the following year he was elected to the Circuit Court. Previous judicial assignments include the Law Division and Traffic Court in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Flynn has been praised for his legal knowledge and ability, integrity, and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Peter Flynn is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Raymond Funderburk - Qualified**

Hon. Raymond Funderburk has been assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District since his appointment to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1993. He was elected to the Circuit Court in 1994 and retained in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Funderburk received high praise for his diligence, punctuality, and judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Raymond Funderburk is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Catherine Marie Haberkorn – Qualified**

Hon. Catherine Marie Haberkorn is assigned to the Criminal Division and sits in a felony trial court. She was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. She has previously been assigned to the Criminal Division's Night Narcotics Court and the Juvenile Division. Judge Haberkorn was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

While there were some comments regarding occasional issues with Judge Haberkorn's temperament and punctuality, she is well respected for her legal knowledge and ability, experience, integrity, and her desire to assist people appearing before her. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Catherine Haberkorn is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Orville Hambright - Qualified**

Hon. Orville Hambright currently serves as a trial judge in the Forcible Entry and Detainer Section of the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He previously served in Traffic Court. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 2005 and subsequently elected in 2006.

The Committee evaluation showed some concerns as to the pace of his call, but also acknowledged that Judge Hambright handles the longest call in landlord-tenant matters, while also ensuring that parties understand the nature of the proceedings and receive fair treatment. He is regarded as having good legal knowledge and ability and is very diligent. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Orville Hambright is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Pamela E. Hill-Veal – Not Qualified**

Hon. Pamela E. Hill-Veal is currently assigned in the 1st Municipal District within the Civil Trial Section. She was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2004 and elected in 2006.

Judge Hill-Veal did not submit documentation for evaluation for the 2012 General Election. Therefore, in accordance with its guidelines regarding judicial candidates, for the 2012 General Election the Illinois State Bar Association determined that Hon. Pamela E. Hill-Veal is **not qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County for failure to complete the evaluation process.

### **Hon. Carol M. Howard - Qualified**

Hon. Carol M. Howard is currently assigned to the Criminal Division. She was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006, where she was initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. She transferred to her current post in 2009.

Judge Howard is considered an excellent judge with a calm temperament and good legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Carol M. Howard is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.



### **Hon. Garritt E. Howard - Qualified**

Hon. Garritt E. Howard is currently assigned to the 2nd Municipal District. He was assigned to the 1st Municipal District from 1994 to 1996 until he was transferred to his current post. He is assigned to a felony trial courtroom and acts as a presiding judge for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Municipal District when needed. Judge Howard was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994, and subsequently elected that year. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Howard reportedly has excellent experience in the criminal court and is well respected for his legal knowledge and his even temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Garritt E. Howard is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Michael J. Howlett - Qualified**

Hon. Michael J. Howlett is currently assigned to the Criminal Division. He served as an Associate Judge from 1983 to 1986. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2005 and elected in 2006. Previous judicial assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District and the Juvenile Justice Division.

Judge Howlett is held in high regard for his strong litigation skills and superior legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Michael J. Howlett is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Moshe Jacobius- Qualified**

Hon. Moshe Jacobius is currently the Presiding Judge of the Chancery Division. He was appointed as a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1991 and elected in 1994. He has also served as a Presiding Judge in the Domestic Relations Division. He was named the Presiding Judge of the Chancery Division in 2010. Judge Jacobius was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

The Committee evaluation showed that Judge Jacobius is well respected for his integrity and extensive legal knowledge and experience. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Moshe Jacobius is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Paul A. Karkula - Qualified**

Hon. Paul Karkula is currently assigned to the County Division, Calendar 7. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1999. After being elected in 2000, Judge Karkula served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District Traffic Center, and was later assigned to the Chancery Division, Mortgage Foreclosure and Mechanics Lien Section. He was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

The Committee evaluation indicated that Judge Karkula handles well a diverse call that includes adoption issues, mental health claims, election law matters, and tax objections. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Paul Karkula is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Joseph G. Kazmierski, Jr.- Qualified**

Hon. Joseph Kazmierski currently serves as a Supervising Judge within the Criminal Division. He fills in as Acting Presiding Judge when necessary. Since his appointment to the Circuit Court of Cook County and subsequent election in 1994, Judge Kazmierski has sat in the Criminal Division, Leighton Criminal Court Building. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Kazmierski is praised for his legal knowledge and diligence. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Joseph Kazmierski is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Robert Lopez Cepero - Qualified**

Hon. Robert Lopez Cepero currently serves in Tax and Miscellaneous Remedies of the Law Division. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County, and subsequently elected to the post in 1994. During his time as a judge, he has circulated among the jury and non-jury courtrooms. Judge Lopez Cepero was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

The Committee evaluation on Judge Lopez Cepero revealed some concerns over occasional issues with judicial temperament. It is reported that he has adequate legal knowledge and works hard. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Robert Lopez Cepero is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Stuart F. Lubin - Qualified**

Hon. Stuart F. Lubin currently serves in the Juvenile Justice Division. He acts as Acting Presiding Judge when necessary. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1991 and served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. Judge Lubin was elected to the post in 1994, and retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Lubin has extensive litigation experience and is praised for his character, judicial temperament, diligence, and integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Stuart F. Lubin is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Marvin P. Luckman - Qualified**

Hon. Marvin P. Luckman is currently assigned to the 1st Municipal District. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1992 and elected in 1994. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

The Committee evaluation revealed that most attorneys feel Judge Luckman has adequate legal knowledge and ability for his current assignment and speak highly of his judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Marvin P. Luckman is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Marcia Maras - Qualified**

Hon. Marcia Maras currently serves in the Trial Section of the Law Division. Previous judicial assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District and the County Division. She was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1999 and elected in 2000. Judge Maras was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Maras is praised for her knowledge of substantive law and court procedure. She presides over a call with complex matters and gets high marks for her courtroom management skills and temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Marcia Maras is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Jill C. Marisie - Qualified**

Hon. Jill C. Marisie was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. She initially was appointed to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, and in 2007, she was transferred to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Municipal District. She still currently serves in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Municipal District presiding over bond hearings, preliminary hearings, 402 conferences, pleas and sentencing, and violations of sentences.

Judge Marisie is reported to be knowledgeable, hard working, and always prepared for her cases. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Jill C. Marisie is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. James M. McGing - Qualified**

Hon. James M. McGing was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. He was initially assigned to Traffic Court within the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District until he was transferred to the Housing Section. Judge McGing handles cases involving administrative review, Enforcement of Administrative Judgments, Demolition judgments, City Liens-Foreclosure Call, the public nuisance call, and he is now part of the new vacant/abandoned foreclosure call. Judge McGing unsuccessfully ran for an Appellate Court vacancy in the 2012 primary election.

The Committee evaluation revealed Judge McGing is knowledgeable in his area of law. Judge McGing is a well-respected jurist and he has an even temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. James M. McGing is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Michael B. McHale – Qualified**

Hon. Michael B. McHale currently serves in the Criminal Division. He was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006, where he was initially assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. Until he was transferred to his current assignment, Judge McHale served in the Domestic Violence Division.

Judge McHale is considered to have an excellent understanding of the law and currently decides many issues off first impression with little prior case law as precedent. He treats everyone fairly and with professionalism. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Michael B. McHale is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. James Patrick Murphy - Qualified**

Hon. James Patrick Murphy currently serves in the Domestic Violence Division. He was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006, and was assigned to the Traffic Section of the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District before being transferred to his current post.

Judge Murphy is well regarded for his legal experience, ability, skill, and temperament. He is a frequent presenter at continuing legal education programs geared toward developing and maintaining judicial skills. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. James Patrick Murphy is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Thomas W. Murphy – Qualified**

Hon. Thomas Murphy is currently the Supervising Judge of the 5<sup>th</sup> Municipal District, Civil Division. He also handles civil litigation matters that include Law Division and Municipal Division cases. Judge Murphy was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. Before becoming a judge, Judge Murphy was a Chicago alderman for approximately sixteen years.

Judge Murphy is reported to have outstanding judicial skills with a good grasp of the law. His judicial temperament, legal knowledge and ability, impartiality, professional conduct, and diligence are considered excellent. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Thomas W. Murphy is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Joyce M. Murphy Gorman – Qualified**

Hon. Joyce Murphy Gorman is currently assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, Civil Non-jury Trial Call. Judge Murphy Gorman was elected to serve as a judge in 2000, and she was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Murphy Gorman is described as being knowledgeable about the law and always prepared. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Joyce Murphy Gorman is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Marya Nega – Qualified**

Hon. Marya Nega was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994, where she was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. She currently sits in the Domestic Relations Division as a preliminary judge handling Calendar E. Judge Nega was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Nega is considered to have good legal knowledge and ability in the applicable area of the law. She is also highly respected as a jurist. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Marya Nega is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Joan Margaret O'Brien – Qualified**

Hon. Joan Margaret O'Brien is currently a judge in the 5<sup>th</sup> Municipal District, the Criminal Division, and the Domestic Violence Division. She is also a Supervising Judge in the Felony Courtrooms and she serves as a floater in criminal courtrooms. Judge O'Brien was elected to serve as a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000, and she was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge O'Brien received unanimous favorable comments in the areas of legal knowledge and ability, diligence, professionalism, temperament, and legal writing skills. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Joan Margaret O'Brien is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Patrick W. O'Brien – Qualified**

Hon. Patrick O'Brien has been assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District since he was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. Within this District, Judge O'Brien presides over non-jury trials, including contract, tenant/landlord, and tort matters under \$50,000. He previously presided over preliminary hearings, traffic matters, and criminal misdemeanors.

Judge O'Brien has been praised for his dealings with the high percentage of pro se litigants. He is considered very knowledgeable about the law and has a good judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Patrick W. O'Brien is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Ramon Ocasio III – Qualified**

Hon. Ramon Ocasio III is currently assigned to the Central Bond Court Rotation. Judges assigned to this rotation share the responsibility of covering Bond Court, Branch 2, Branch 3, Branch 98, and Branch 66. In addition, they preside over preliminary hearings during nights and weekends at various police stations. Judge Ocasio was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006.

The Committee evaluation found that Judge Ocasio has a good grasp of the applicable law, good judicial character, and is very diligent. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Ramon Ocasio III is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Stuart E. Palmer – Qualified**

Hon. Stuart Palmer is currently assigned to the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, 6th Division. Judge Palmer was appointed and subsequently elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. He was reviewed in 2009 for possible appointment to the Appellate Court; the Illinois State Bar Association found Judge Palmer "Highly Qualified" for the Illinois Appellate Court.

The Committee evaluation elicited that Judge Palmer has excellent judicial temperament and diligence as a judge. He has the highest integrity and extensive legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Stuart Palmer is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Lee Preston – Qualified**

Hon. Lee Preston currently serves in the Chancery Division. He was elected to serve as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Previous judicial assignments include the Juvenile Division (Child Protection) and the Commercial Calendar of the Law Division. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Preston is highly respected for his litigation and professional experience, and his professional conduct. He is hard working and well prepared. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Lee Preston is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Mary Colleen Roberts – Qualified**

Hon. Mary Colleen Roberts currently serves in the Criminal Division as a floating judge. She was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2006. Since being elected to the bench, Judge Roberts has served in numerous courtrooms, including the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Municipal Districts and the Juvenile Justice Division.

Judge Roberts is considered to have good legal knowledge and is respected for her courtroom demeanor. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Mary Colleen Roberts is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Thomas David Roti – Qualified**

Hon. Thomas Roti currently serves as the supervising judge for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Municipal District's Mandatory Arbitration Program and as a mentoring judge for that district. Judge Roti was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000, and was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

The Committee evaluation found that Judge Roti is praised for his diligence and good moral character. He possesses adequate professional experience as a judge. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Thomas David Roti is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Lisa Ruble Murphy – Qualified**

Hon. Lisa Ruble Murphy was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Her current assignment is as an independent calendar judge in the Domestic Relations Division. She presides over pre- and post- decree domestic relations cases. Judge Ruble Murphy was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Ruble Murphy prefers to have cases settled instead of being litigated. There were some concerns raised about the difficulty of scheduling contested matters in a timely fashion. She is considered to be well versed in the law and is praised for her judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Lisa Ruble Murphy is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Drella C. Savage – Qualified**

Hon. Drella Savage currently serves in the Law Division for Major Motions Calendar F. Judge Savage was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. She was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. In 2009, she was reviewed for possible appointment to the Appellate Court; the Illinois State Bar Association found Judge Savage to be “Qualified” for the Illinois Appellate Court.

Judge Savage has excellent legal knowledge and ability and is hard working. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Drella Savage to be **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Colleen Sheehan – Qualified**

Hon. Colleen Sheehan currently serves in the Juvenile Justice Division, Calendar 56. She has served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District since she was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000. Judge Sheehan was retained for a six-year term 2006.

Judge Sheehan is universally praised for her legal knowledge, ability, and judicial temperament. Her efforts to reform and improve the juvenile justice system are highly spoken of. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Colleen Sheehan is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Dianne M. Shelley – Qualified**

Hon. Dianne Shelley is currently assigned to the Municipal Civil Jury Trial Section within the Circuit Court of Cook County. She has previously served in the Criminal Domestic Violence Section and the Forcible Entry and Detainer Section since she was elected in 2006.

Though she sits in a high volume municipal courtroom, Judge Shelley manages her call well while maintaining good judicial temperament with good legal knowledge and ability. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Dianne M. Shelley is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle – Qualified**

Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle currently serves as a judge in the Criminal Division. She was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2000. Previous judicial assignments include Traffic Court, Branch 38, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. Judge Slattery Boyle was retained for a six-year term in 2006.

Judge Slattery Boyle is known for handling the legally intensive matters before her knowledgeable and promptly. She is considered to be even-tempered, fair-minded, and professional with high integrity. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. James M. Varga – Qualified**

Hon. James Varga is currently assigned to the Law Division, where he presides over jury trials. Judge Varga was elected to the bench in 1994. At that time, he was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District, and he was transferred to the Law Division. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Varga is considered to be well prepared with a good knowledge of the law, although some questions were raised about his demeanor. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. James M. Varga is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Carl Anthony Walker – Qualified**

Hon. Carl Anthony Walker currently serves in the Juvenile Justice Division, hearing matters involving minors charged with committing crimes from retail theft to murder. His previous assignment rotated him through many different courtrooms within the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was appointed to the Circuit Court of Cook County and subsequently elected in 2006.

The Committee evaluation showed some concerns over Judge Walker's propensity to sometimes have discussions in court with family members of defendants, thereby lengthening the call, although this is seen as part of his sincere effort to help juveniles appearing before him. Judge Walker is considered to be knowledgeable of the law and has good judicial temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Carl Anthony Walker is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Richard Walsh – Qualified**

Hon. Richard Walsh is currently assigned to the Juvenile Justice Division. He was previously assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. Judge Walsh was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Walsh is reported to be highly knowledgeable and hard working. He is active in committees working to improve the juvenile justice system and cares about the defendants appearing before him. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Richard Walsh is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. Camille E. Willis – Qualified**

Hon. Camille Willis is currently assigned to the 6<sup>th</sup> Municipal District, where she hears a general civil call. Previous assignments include the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District and the Child Protection Division. She became a judge in 1994. Judge Willis was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Judge Willis possesses the requisite legal knowledge and ability and is well respected for her professional conduct. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. Camille E. Willis is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

### **Hon. E. Kenneth Wright – Qualified**

Hon. E. Kenneth Wright is currently the Presiding Judge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal District. He was elected to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1994. He was retained for six-year terms in 2000 and 2006. He was reviewed for possible appointment to the Appellate Court in 2009; the Illinois State Bar Association found Judge Wright to be "Qualified" for the Illinois Appellate Court.

Judge Wright is considered to have excellent legal knowledge and ability, and is hard-working with a good temperament. For the 2012 General Election, the Illinois State Bar Association determined Hon. E. Kenneth Wright is **qualified** for retention as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.