



Supreme Court of Illinois

September 20, 2018

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS ANNOUNCES TWO AT LARGE VACANCIES IN COOK COUNTY

Justice Mary Jane Theis of the Supreme Court of Illinois has begun an application process for two At Large judicial vacancies in the Cook County Judicial Circuit.

One vacancy is created by the retirement Judge Sebastian T. Patti. The other vacancy, effective December 3, 2018, is created as a result of Judge Carole Bellows deciding not to seek retention.

Under the Illinois Constitution, judicial vacancies are filled by Supreme Court appointment. The application process will lead to the final Court approval. Applicants will undergo an evaluation and screening process.

That process will include an evaluation by the Alliance of Bar Associations, which is made up of 11 bar groups in the Cook County area, and the Chicago Bar Association. Further review will be conducted by a special judicial screening committee that Justice Theis established in 2013 and is co-chaired by retired U.S. District Court Judge Wayne R. Andersen and retired Illinois Appellate Court Judge Michael J. Gallagher.

To be eligible for consideration for appointment, the applicant must be a lawyer in good standing licensed to practice law in Illinois and a resident of Cook County.

The deadline for submission of applications is **4 p.m. on Friday, October 19, 2018.**

Notice of the vacancy and details of the application process are posted on the Illinois Supreme Court's website at www.illinoiscourts.gov. From there, follow the instructions on the "Latest News" scroller announcing the At Large vacancies.

Applications may be submitted electronically to lmarino@illinoiscourts.gov or by mail to: Supreme Court of Illinois, Attn: Ms. Laurie Marino, 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite N2013, Chicago, IL 60601.

Applicants who have previously applied for appointment to a vacancy must complete and submit a new application. If applicants have already been evaluated by the bar associations, they should include copies with the application. Applications may be submitted without bar evaluations.

The persons appointed to fill the vacancies will serve until the first Monday in December following the November 2020 general election.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Chris Bonjean, Communications Director to the Illinois Supreme Court at 312.793.2323 or cbonjean@illinoiscourts.gov.)