

BAR ASSOCIATION RELEASES FINDINGS ON JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

CHICAGO, ILL. (October 14, 2008)- The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) has released the findings of its Judicial Evaluation Committee (JEC) for candidates for the Illinois Supreme Court, the Illinois Appellate Court and the Circuit Court of Cook County in the November 4, 2008 general election. The JEC evaluated both sitting judges running for retention of their seats and candidates seeking election as judges. Copies of the findings can be found at www.chicagobar.org under the heading "For the Public."

The JEC, consisting of approximately 200 lawyers, conducts a comprehensive peer review evaluation of all candidates. Sitting judges seeking retention are given a rating of "Qualified" or "Not Recommended." Candidates running for judge are issued ratings of "Highly Qualified," "Qualified," or "Not Recommended."

Of the 70 sitting judges running for retention in November, the JEC found two Illinois Appellate Court justices "Qualified" and 64 Circuit Court judges "Qualified" for retention. Four Circuit Court judges were given ratings of "Not Recommended."

Of the 31 candidates seeking election for Circuit Court positions, 28 were evaluated by the JEC. The Committee found four of those candidates "Highly Qualified," 22 "Qualified," and two "Not recommended." Three candidates declined to participate in the evaluation process and pursuant to the JEC's Governing Resolution were automatically found "Not Recommended."

The CBA publishes its JEC ratings to help inform voters about the qualifications of sitting judges and judicial candidates. "There are few elected officials who have a more direct impact on the lives of everyday citizens," said Rita A. Fry, Chair of the JEC. "And yet, these are the candidates about whom the public usually knows the least. There are just so many of them."

In evaluating the candidates, the JEC conducts comprehensive background investigations and interviews. Its governing resolution provides that candidates must receive at least a 60% favorable rating from the JEC to receive a "Qualified" rating.

"The JEC applies strict criteria in evaluating judges and judicial candidates," Fry said. She added, "Candidates who do not possess the requisite qualifications, which include: integrity, legal knowledge, legal ability, professional experience, judicial temperament, diligence and punctuality, will not receive a 'Qualified' rating from the CBA."

Fry urged the public to vote for judges and to follow the JEC's recommendations on judicial candidates. For the in-depth findings and explanations of findings, visit the CBA online at www.chicagobar.org and click on "Judicial Election Information" in the "For the Public" section. Visitors may download the booklet the "Green Guide to Judicial Candidates in Cook County" or a copy of the single-page "Vote Smart Guide." The pocket guide is intended to be taken into the voting booth for easy reference.

The JEC's findings for the November 4, 2008 election follow.

Key: HQ = Highly Qualified Q = Qualified NR = Not
Recommended

Illinois Supreme Court Candidate

| Punch # | Name |
|---------|------|
| Rating | |

Illinois Appellate Court Candidates**For retention**

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 100 | Michael J. Gallagher | Q |
| Q | | |
| 102 | Margaret Stanton McBride | Q |

County-wide

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 45 | Sharon Johnson Coleman | |
| 46 | John O. Steele | Q |

Circuit Court of Cook County Candidates**For Retention**

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 104 | Thomas E. Flanagan | Q |
| 106 | Micahel P. Toomin | Q |
| 108 | Richard J. Elrod | Q |
| 110 | Themis N. Karnezis | Q |
| 112 | James Patrick Flannery | Q |
| 114 | Mary Ellen Coghlan | Q |
| 116 | Sebastian Thomas Patti | Q |
| 118 | Michelle Francene Lowrance | Q |
| 120 | Kathleen Marie McGury | Q |
| 122 | Shelley Lynn Sutker-Dermer | Q |
| 124 | Lynn Marie Egan | Q |
| 126 | Gerald C. Bender | Q |
| 128 | Andrew Berman | Q |
| 130 | Diane Gordon Cannon | Q |
| 133 | Evelyn B. Clay | NR |
| 134 | Sharon Johnson Coleman | Q |
| 136 | Clayton J. Crane | Q |
| 140 | Candace Jean Fabri | Q |
| 142 | John J. Fleming | Q |
| 144 | Rodolfo (Rudy) Garcia | Q |
| 146 | James J. Gavin | Q |
| 148 | Shelli Williams-Hayes | Q |
| 151 | Vanessa A. Hopkins | NR |
| 152 | Rickey Jones | Q |
| 154 | Kathleen G. Kennedy | Q |
| 156 | William G. Lacy | Q |
| 158 | Marjorie C. Laws | Q |
| 160 | Patricia Manila Martin | Q |
| 162 | Veronica B. Mathein | Q |
| 164 | Carol Pearce McCarthy | Q |
| 166 | Barbara A. McDonald | Q |
| 168 | Mary A. Mulhern | Q |
| 170 | Edward N. Pietrucha | Q |
| 172 | Edmund Ponce de Leon | Q |
| 174 | James L. Rhodes | Q |
| 176 | Barbara Ann Riley | Q |
| 178 | James G. Riley | Q |
| 180 | Cheryl A. (Hilliard) Starks | Q |
| 182 | David P. Sterba | Q |
| 184 | Jane Louise Stuart | Q |

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|----|
| 186 | Donald Joseph Suriano | Q |
| 188 | Kenneth J. Wadas | Q |
| 190 | Frank G. Zelezinski | Q |
| 192 | Gregory Joseph Wojkowski | Q |
| 194 | Sandra Otaka | Q |
| 196 | Mary Anne Mason | Q |
| 198 | Robert E. Gordon | Q |
| 200 | Lewis Nixon | Q |
| 202 | Eileen Mary Brewer | Q |
| 204 | Noreen Valeria Love | Q |
| 206 | Margaret Ann Brennan | Q |
| 208 | Janet Adams Brosnahan | Q |
| 210 | James R. Brown | Q |
| 213 | Anthony Lynn Burell | NR |
| 214 | John Thomas Doody, Jr. | Q |
| 216 | Peter A. Felice | Q |
| 218 | Kerry M. Kennedy | Q |
| 221 | Casandra Lewis | NR |
| 222 | Thomas J. Lipscomb | Q |
| 224 | Sheila McGinnis | Q |
| 226 | Dennis Michael McGuire | Q |
| 228 | Barbara M. Meyer | Q |
| 230 | William Timothy O'Brien | Q |
| 232 | Lawrence O'Gara | Q |
| 234 | Laura Marie Sullivan | Q |
| 236 | Sandra Tristano | Q |
| 238 | Valarie E. Turner | Q |
| 240 | Raul Vega | Q |

Circuit Court of Cook County Candidates

County-wide

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Vacancy</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 47 | Disko | Dennis J. Burke | HQ |
| 48 | Glowacki | Jesse G. Reyes | Q |
| 49 | Healy | Maureen Ward Kirby | Q |
| 50 | Keehan | Marilyn F. Johnson | Q |
| 51 | Lott | Thomas J. Byrne | Q |
| 52 | Montelione | Debra B. Walker | Q |
| 53 | Murphy | Kristyna Colleen Ryan | NR |
| 54 | Nowicki | Michael B. Hyman | HQ |
| 55 | Thomas | Joan B. Powell | Q |

Cook County Subcircuits

County-wide

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Subcircuit # - Vacancy</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 56 | 1 Turkington | Donna L. Cooper | Q |
| 56 | 3 Donnersberger | Patrick J. Sherlock | Q |
| 56 | 4 Shultz | Pat Rogers | Q |
| 57 | 4 Shultz | Maureen H. Masterson-Pulia | NR |

| | | | |
|----|--------------|------------------------|----|
| 56 | 5 Bush | Jackie Marie Portman | NR |
| 57 | 5A | Dominique C. Ross | NR |
| 56 | 6 Figueroa | Mauricio Araujo | Q |
| 56 | 7 Young | Anita Rivkin-Carothers | Q |
| 56 | 8 Sheehan | Ann Collins Dole | HQ |
| 56 | 10 Kowalski | Ursula Walowski | HQ |
| 57 | 10 Morrissey | Diana L. Kenworthy | Q |
| 58 | 10 Pucinski | Eileen O'Neill Burke | Q |
| 56 | 12 Devlin | Pamela Elizabeth Loza | Q |
| 57 | 12 Devlin | Laura J. Morask | Q |
| 56 | 13 Ryan | Ann Catherine Brady | Q |

Cook County Subcircuits (cont'd.)

County-wide

| <i>Punch #</i> | <i>Subcircuit # - Vacancy</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 57 | 13 Ryan | Annie O'Donnell | Q |
| 58 | 13 Tobin | Carol L. Barnes | NR |
| 59 | 13 Tobin | Margarita Kulys Hoffman | Q |
| 56 | 14 Henry | James N. O'Hara | Q |
| 57 | 14 Reyna | Edward A. Arce | Q |
| 56 | 15A | Anna Helen Demacopoulos | Q |
| 57 | 15A | Peter Fera | Q |

About The Chicago Bar Association

Founded in 1874, The Chicago Bar Association is one of the largest metropolitan bar associations in the United States. The CBA is governed by a 23-member Board of Managers and has 55 Practice Committees, 23 Service Committees and 15 Special Committees, which provide a wide variety of services to the legal profession, and to the public. For more information, visit The CBA online at chicagobar.org