

ILLINOIS COURTS CONNECT

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS JUDICIAL BRANCH

March 2022



Remote court proceedings – Finding the sweet spot and maximizing the benefits for all

According to a recently announced National Center for State Courts exploratory study of Texas courts, remote court proceedings often take longer than in-person hearings, but they provide increased access to justice as litigants can more easily attend and participate in hearings. No surprises there. » [Read More.](#)



Features from court offices

Illinois Supreme Court announces time standards for case closure in trial courts

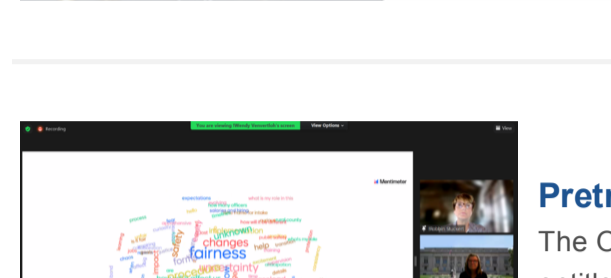
The Illinois Supreme Court announced a new order which for the first time establishes Time Standards for Case Closure in the Illinois Trial Courts, effective July 1, 2022, for cases filed on or after January 1, 2022. » [Read More.](#)

Illinois Supreme Court history: Edward Coles and Illinois slavery

According to the first Illinois constitution in 1818, slavery was prohibited. Exceptions included slaves of former French residents and the de facto slavery of indentured servitude. » [Read More.](#)

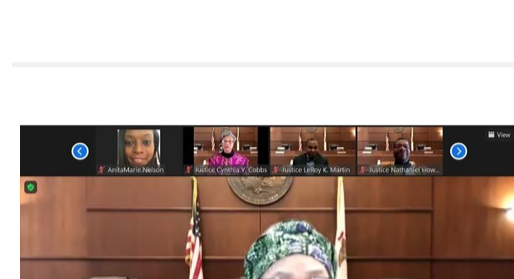
Illinois Supreme Court creates Remote Proceedings Task Force

The Illinois Courts remained open throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by moving many court proceedings, where appropriate, to remote hearings in almost every type of case. » [Read More.](#)



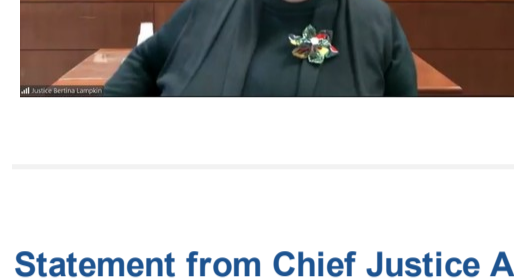
Illinois JusticeCorps celebrates AmeriCorps Week 2022

Every March, AmeriCorps programs around the country celebrate AmeriCorps Week; this year, AmeriCorps Week was March 13-19. » [Read More.](#)



Pretrial Services in Illinois webinar

The Office of Statewide Pretrial Services held a webinar entitled "Pretrial Services in Illinois (A Multidisciplinary Overview)" on March 4th which was attended by over 350 people. » [Read More.](#)

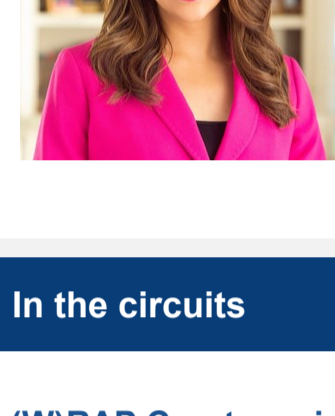


Black History Month - A look at improving diversity, equity, and inclusion in the United States Supreme Court

On February 25, 2022, First District Appellate Court African American Justices presented the Sixth Annual Black History Month Celebration via Zoom. » [Read More.](#)

Statement from Chief Justice Anne M. Burke on the 59th Anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright

On March 18, we marked the 59th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's momentous decision that the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution requires states to provide attorneys for criminal defendants who cannot afford their own representation. » [Read More.](#)



Erika Harold appointed as Executive Director of Commission on Professionalism

The Illinois Supreme Court announced the appointment of Erika Harold as the new Executive Director of the Commission on Professionalism effective April 11, 2022. Ms. Harold succeeds the retiring Jayne Reardon, who has served as Executive Director since 2009. » [Read More.](#)

In the circuits

(W)RAP Court receives national recognition as mentor court

The Rehabilitative Alternative Probation and Women's Rehabilitative Alternative Probation Drug Court Program has been named one of just 10 national mentor treatment courts by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and the U.S. Department of Justice. » [Read More.](#)

St. Clair County receives nearly \$700,000 technology grant for court upgrades

The St. Clair County Judiciary and Court System are pleased to announce the award of a Technology Modernization grant in the amount of \$696,792.47. » [Read More.](#)

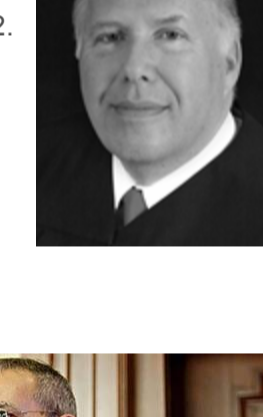
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit is recipient of Illinois Department of Human Services Juvenile Redeploy Program

The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court, serving the residents of Lake County, received grant funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services in the amount of \$212,493; to provide comprehensive community-based intervention services for youth and by extension their families, with the development and implementation of the Redeploy Youth and Family Support Program using Evidence-Based Practices. » [Read More.](#)

Judicial retirements and obituaries

Chief Judge Mudge to retire at end of current term

Chief Judge William A. Mudge announced Friday that he is retiring at the end of his term on Dec. 4, 2022. » [Read More.](#)



Justice Harris to retire

First District Appellate Justice Sheldon A. Harris will resign on December 4, 2022.



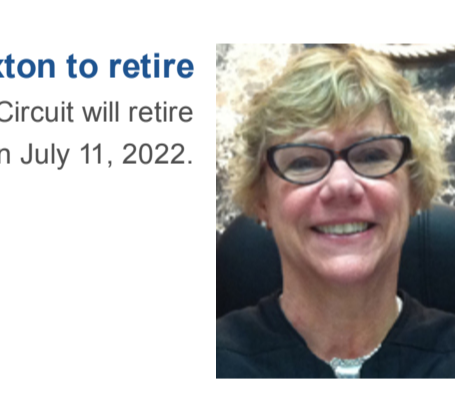
Judge Doherty to retire

Circuit Judge Thomas L. Doherty of the 23rd Judicial District will resign on July 4, 2022.



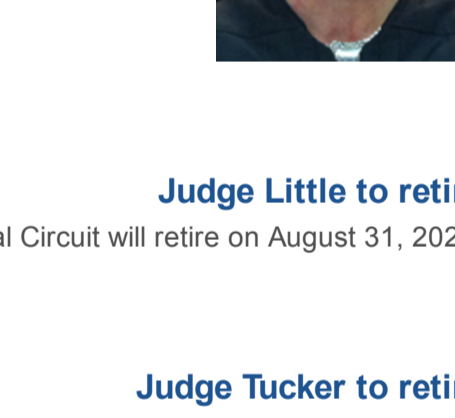
Bureau County Circuit Court Judge announces retirement

Bureau County Circuit Court Judge Marc P. Bernabei has announced his retirement following more than 37 years of service in the Bureau County Courts. » [Read More.](#)



Hon. Mary Linn Green announces retirement from 17th judicial circuit

Associate Circuit Judge Mary Linn Green will retire from her position on July 5, 2022. » [Read More.](#)



Sexton to retire

Associate Judge Elizabet W. Sexton of the 18th Judicial Circuit will retire on July 11, 2022.



Judge Little to retire

Resident Circuit Judge Thomas E. Little of the Sixth Judicial Circuit will retire on August 31, 2022.

Judge Tucker to retire

Resident Circuit Judge Alan D. Tucker of the Eighth Judicial Circuit will retire on December 4, 2022.

Connie Rogers to retire

Connie M. Rogers of the AOIC's Probation Services Division will retire on March 31, 2022.

Susanne M. Groebner

Susanne M. Groebner (nee Barloga), age 46, suddenly passed Feb. 25, 2022. » [Read More.](#)



Mel Jiganti, former state appellate judge and president of Illinois Judges Association, dies

Mel Jiganti was a Cook County Circuit Court judge before sitting on the state appellate bench for 17 years, and put in a stint as president of the Illinois Judges Association in the early 1990s. » [Read More.](#)

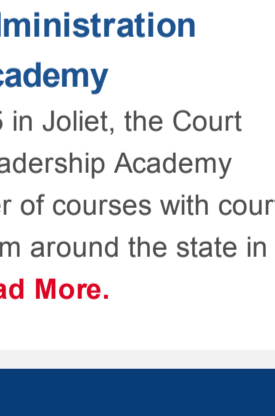
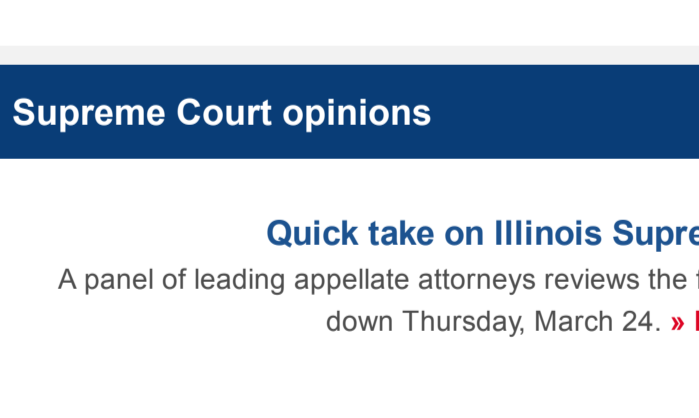


Photo galleries



2022 Court Administration Leadership Academy

Held March 23-25 in Joliet, the Court Administration Leadership Academy featured a number of courses with court administrators from around the state in attendance. » [Read More.](#)

Supreme Court opinions

Quick take on Illinois Supreme Court opinion issued March 24

A panel of leading appellate attorneys reviews the four Illinois Supreme Court opinions handed down Thursday, March 24. » [Read More](#) and » [Read the Full Opinions.](#)

In the news

Kane County courts to pilot new criminal justice changes in state including end of cash bail

Kane County's 16th Circuit Court is one of three courts in Illinois chosen to pilot the implementation of a sweeping criminal justice overhaul bill approved last year which includes the end of cash bail. » [Read More.](#)

US News releases its 2023 law school rankings; who switched spots?

Yale Law School kept its No. 1 spot on the 2023 U.S. News & World Report rankings, which were released Tuesday, and the University of Chicago Law School moved up—from No. 4 to No. 3 on the list. » [Read More.](#)

Illinois lawmakers look to address organized retail crime

A group of Illinois senators were joined by officials from the Illinois Retail Merchants Association and state attorney general's office at a news conference Tuesday to outline an effort to combat organized retail crime. » [Read More.](#)

Last issue's top links

- [A Chief Justice's perspective on what is happening in our judicial system](#)
- [Illinois Supreme Court amends order on courthouse mask policy effective Feb. 28](#)
- [Justice P. Scott Neville, Jr. reminds lawyers about the process he will use to recommend judges for appointment to the Circuit Court of Cook County and the Illinois Appellate Court – First District](#)

Resources

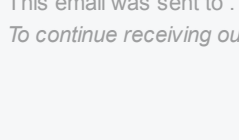
- [How often do judges end up being thanked by parties they rule against?](#)
- [Tiny Chat 84: Empathy & Virtual Court](#)
- [Justice Chat Files: A graphic novel series](#)

Court Calendar

APRIL 4-8 | [Education Conference 2022](#)

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