



Illinois Civil Justice League

ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

Kyle Napp Third Judicial Circuit

1. State the main reason why voters should return you to the bench.

I am fair, impartial, hardworking and respectful to everyone who appears and works in my courtroom. I feel incredibly honored to be able to serve as a Circuit Judge and I never forget that I am a public servant entrusted to do my job to the best of my ability.

2. What actions have you taken as a judge of which you are most proud?

I am proud of my work as the Supervising Judge of the Specialty Drug and Mental Health Courts. These Courts work with law enforcement and treatment providers to help defendants deal with their addiction and/or mental health issues and still hold individuals accountable for their criminal behavior. These courts are changing people's lives and reducing recidivism.

3. Name and describe one change you would make in the Illinois court system.

Access to the Courts has been a problem for a number of years. Many members of the public simply don't have the funds to hire a lawyer but need Court intervention. I am very happy that the Illinois Supreme Court has made one of their initiatives improving access to justice in the Courts. Because of the new initiative, members of the public can access information on line or at a self-help center and receive help in filing motions or petitions. There is still room for improvement but this is a good start.

4. One prominent Illinois judicial evaluation survey asks attorneys to evaluate candidates on Integrity, Impartiality, Legal Ability and Temperament. Critique yourself in these four areas as to how you personally approach your job as a judge?

When I was an associate judge, on the judicial evaluation referenced above, I received the highest rating of all 13 associate judges. As a circuit judge in the Felony, Criminal Division, I have some of the most serious and complicated matters before me. I keep control of my courtroom by treating everyone with respect, listening to everyone's positions, explaining the law and basing my rulings on the law. When tensions are high, I remain calm and firm on the expectations of everyone in my courtroom. I have been told that while I run a tight ship, I am also appropriately kind and compassionate.