



## 2020 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

### Stanley Brandmeyer Circuit Judge – 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit

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

**The main reason why voters should return me to the bench: I adhere to a judicial philosophy of deciding cases based upon the facts and law as presented in my courtroom. I do not apply facts and law as I may personally wish them to be. I also believe everyone who enters my courtroom should be accorded the highest level of respect and consideration. My judicial philosophy is grounded in the idea of judicial restraint and not activism.**

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

**The actions I have taken as Judge of which I am most proud: Through the efforts of my office, and with the support of the Circuit Clerk in my County, we implemented one of the State's first electronic civil case-filing systems. We also continue to be on the forefront of the "remote" hearing movement, using platforms such as Zoom, to move cases to completion that might have languished as a result of the Covid 19 crisis.**

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

**One change I would make in the Illinois Court system: I would seek to implement rules which build-in disincentives for parties to file and prosecute patently frivolous cases.**

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?

**Judicial evaluation survey attributes: My judicial philosophy mirrors my philosophy as a husband and a father. I avoid all inferences or appearances of impropriety so as to preserve the integrity of the Court upon which I serve. I understand that, as a Judge, I am often the only Judge that a litigant will encounter in our system and am therefore, to them, a Court of last-resort. Consequently, my legal ability and temperament, as well as my demonstrated integrity and impartiality, will help to sustain that same judicial system in the eyes of the public.**