



State of Illinois
Circuit Court of Cook County
Sixth Municipal District

Carl B. Boyd
Judge

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September 28, 2018

Re: ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

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

I should be retained for three main reasons; my competence, integrity and temperament. (1) Competence: I have a combined total of 27 years of legal knowledge and experience; 21 years of private practice, and 6 years as a Judge. I began my career in the 1st Municipal District, assigned to Traffic. Currently, I am currently assigned to the 6th Municipal District, assigned to a Felony Call. In the last year, I have ruled on more than 60 trials and motions. I am both proficient and efficient. (2) Integrity, impartiality and independence: I am a man of sound, moral character and possess strong ethical values. I take pride in maintaining the public's trust by exercising transparency and objectivity. I am not persuaded by the court of public opinion or institutional influences. As a compass, I employ both the law and the facts to rule on all matters of controversy. (3) Temperament: I am decisive and deliberate, yet open-minded. I owe my fidelity to equal justice. I work diligently to assure that all cases are resolved fairly and in a timely manner. Public service is a high calling. I wish to be retained, so that I may continue with this great work.

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

In March 2017, I was assigned to a Felony Call in the Markham Court House; District 6. It was reported that in 2016, the call exceeded 500 open cases. Today, my call has approximately 409 open cases. I have implemented Diversion Programs to keep non-violent felony offenders out of the Department of Corrections, while simultaneously affording them an opportunity to expunge their criminal histories. Furthermore, I have collaborated with two community organizations which serve as resources to assist ex-felons, who desire employment training and job placement. Finally, one weekend a month, I volunteer as a mentor in a youth program, working with at-risk teenagers, teaching life skills and methods to peacefully negotiate the tests and trials they encounter in urban America.

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

The Specialty Courts deserve praise and recognition. I would direct your attention to the Specialty Court reserved for criminal defendants with drug addiction and mental illness. That particular Specialty Court's challenge is the lack of resources, staff and facilities to assess and address the negative impacts of substance abuse and mental illness. If feasible, increased programs would serve to benefit these unique classes of individuals and reduce the level of recidivism.

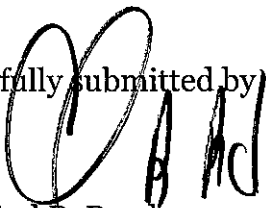
4. Critique yourself in the area of Integrity, Impartiality, Legal Ability and Temperament.

Prior to being elected, I was self-employed for 21 years in private practice. In the past 12 months, I have tried not less than six (jury) murder trials, not counting bench murder trials. If one adds the crimes of criminal sexual assault, aggravated discharge of a firearm, and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, I have had more than 60 trials and hearings within the past 12 months. My 6 years as a Judge have been a learning curve. I welcome each day as a learning opportunity. However, I am confident that I possess the skill and legal acumen to serve as a competent judge.

My Integrity and impartiality are required hallmarks and constitute a cornerstone of our judicial system. I am not influenced by prejudice, partisan politics, explicit or implicit bias. My integrity requires me to decide cases based on the facts and the law.

As a judge, humility, compassion and patience are persona the public and all litigants deserve. I objectively ponder both sides of any case, remain even-tempered and then render my decision. I am confident in my ability, but not conceited. My mantra is *justice for the people and empathy for the accused.*

Respectfully submitted by



Judge Carl B. Boyd
Cook County Circuit Court,
6th Municipal District