

ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire
Honorable Tommy Brewer

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

I have a vast amount of litigation experience. I have experience as a Prosecutor, Defense Attorney as well as Law Enforcement experience as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I believe this varied experience has fostered my ability to remain impartial among all parties in cases that I preside over. Additionally, I believe my experience aides me in my fact-finding and credibility assessment responsibilities as a Judge.

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

Access to justice is a paramount issue in the justice system. I am proud of the work I have done as a judge in forging partnerships with various legal aid agencies. I have, and will continue to improve community access to the courts and legal services in the district where I preside.

3. Name and describe one change you would make in the Illinois Court System?

Court time should be used more efficiently. The time between the filing of cases and final disposition is entirely too long. Unless remarkable circumstances exist, cases should be disposed within 18 months.

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?

I pride myself on my behavior on the bench. I have tremendous respect for the justice system; I consider my strongest attributes to be patience, humility and impartiality. I treat the court staff, attorneys and each person that comes before me with dignity and respect. As for my legal ability, I have acquired a substantial amount of experience on and off the bench. As a judge, I am continuously learning and researching as we are often confronted with novel issues.