



Illinois Civil Justice League

ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire Retention Judge Judicial Position

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

For the last eight years I have presided over hundreds of cases in the Chancery, Domestic Relations, and Traffic Divisions. Every bar association evaluation has rated me Highly Qualified, Qualified, or Recommended to serve as a judge. My judicial decisions are affirmed consistently by the Appellate Court. In addition to my judicial duties on the bench, I teach regularly at judicial education conferences, publish legal articles for the *Chicago Lawyer*, and serve on the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judges Association and the Supreme Court Committee on Strategic Planning. Based on my integrity, temperament, experience, preparedness, bar association ratings, strong work ethic, and involvement in judicial education and strategic planning, I believe voters should return me to the bench.

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

I am proud of the way I do my best to “hear courteously, answer wisely, consider soberly, and decide impartially,” just like Socrates said. I work hard each day to administer justice in a fair and impartial way and promote professionalism in the courtroom. I take each case seriously and strive to reach fair and just decisions. It is my hope and belief that everyone who appears before me leaves knowing they were heard and treated fairly by a well-reasoned jurist. It is my privilege to serve as a judge and I hope to have this opportunity for many years to come.

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

I would change the court system by enhancing courtroom technology and improving electronic filing and access to the courts.

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 surveys have commented favorably on my skills in these areas: “Judge Gamrath is well regarded for her knowledge of the law, diligence, work ethic, and fine temperament.” – Chicago Bar Association (2018). “She is described as always being prepared and is praised for her temperament. She is generally described as hard working and is praised for managing a sometimes difficult court call.” – Chicago Council of Lawyers (2018). I work hard each day to validate these comments by rendering timely, impartial, and well-reasoned decisions; listening carefully to both sides of each case; studying the law and being well prepared; and treating litigants, lawyers, and all court participants with courtesy and respect.

Sincerely,
Celia Gamrath
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