



Illinois Civil Justice League

ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

**Jill C. Marisie
Cook County Circuit Judge**

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

It is important to have qualified and experienced judges on the bench. I have almost 12 years of experience as a judge. I have been found qualified or recommended by the CBA, ISBA and all other bar associations within the Alliance of bar associations thus far. I have been honored by The John Marshall Law School for my service as a judge. I have received the award for "Most Civil Jurist" by the NWSBA, as well as the "Bench and Bar" award. I strive to treat everyone in my courtroom with respect and fairness. To have been recognized for those efforts is the greatest honor. I love what I do, I am proud of my work ethic and hope to continue to serve Cook County.

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

Other than my favorable standing with attorneys from all sides, litigants and court personnel, I am most proud of my appointment as Presiding Judge in the Third District. This has allowed me the opportunity to mentor and supervise colleagues. It has expanded my relationships with 24 administrative/court departments, police and local governments. This in turn has allowed us to work together to establish a Pro Bono Attorney room to assist the public. Most importantly and fulfilling, is my ability to continue to preside over the Mental Health and Veteran's calls. The experience of seeing the benefits of treatment and the opportunity to be a part of a person's transformation from criminal addict to functioning and sober is life changing for everyone involved.

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

While diversity of judges and expanding attorney services to indigent litigants is extremely necessary, I believe having technology that conforms with 21st Century standards is imperative. E-filing is a huge start but there are so many areas that information is not readily accessible. Access by all judges, attorney's and court personnel to statewide criminal backgrounds or court case status in other county's is a must. When defendants are picked up on warrants that were previously quashed and recalled but hadn't "cleared" the system, it's unconscionable. When no one but prospective jurors have WIFI in the courthouse, changes need to be made.

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?

The way my character and reputation are viewed by others is very important to me. Respect is earned. My honesty, fairness, knowledge of the law and demeanor in and out of court has never been questioned. My motto is that "Ability may take you to the top, But only character will keep you there." I try to treat all people with dignity and respect. I explain my rulings with facts and law and I always allow those before me to express themselves. Furthermore, I attend Ethics classes, seminars on implicit bias and continue in legal education for updates in the law, mental health issues and substance abuse.