

# ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

## Retention Judge Judicial Position

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

I have just gone through a very thorough and complete vetting process with all the State, County and Local Bar Associations and have been found qualified and recommended for retention by all of them.

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

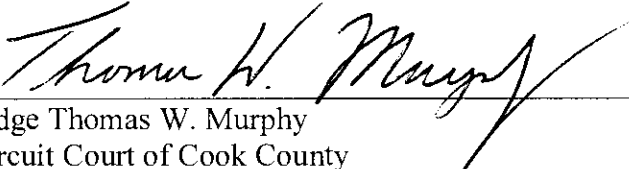
I am most proud to put on the robe every morning and take the bench. I consider it a privilege and an honor that I do not take lightly. I do my best to give each litigant a fair and equal opportunity to be heard.

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

We should have a uniform E-File System throughout the state with clerk of court employees properly educated and trained to implement it.

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?*

How a Judge conducts himself or herself sets the tone and atmosphere in the courtroom. I recognize this and do my best to act appropriately at all times. That means maintaining control of the courtroom without ranting and raving. I instruct the attorneys to address the court and not each other and maintain a calm demeanor when ruling. I also take my responsibility to keep up to date on any changes in the law through continuing my legal education with the Chicago Bar and Illinois State Bar Association as well as speaking on topics involving Civil Practice and Procedure.

  
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Judge Thomas W. Murphy  
Circuit Court of Cook County