

ICJL 2018 Judicial Retention Questionnaire

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

This term has been my most productive. In 2017 and 2016, I presided over the most jury trials in the Law Division. For several years before, I presided over the second most. I have also presided over very significant jury trials reported on the front page of the *Law Bulletin*. I am guest faculty for the Intensive Trial Advocacy Course at Notre Dame Law School. I was on faculty at the Illinois Judicial Education Conference. As a speaker or panelist, I taught at Continuing Legal Education (CLE) classes at the Chicago Bar Association and Chicago-Kent Law School and classes at John Marshall Law School. I have published three articles in the Illinois State Bar Association's *Illinois Bar Journal* and three chapters in the *Law Division Jury Section Bench Book*.

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

I am most proud of my work ethic, reflected above in the number of jury trials, teaching opportunities, and publications.

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

I would focus on one of the greatest needs in the Illinois court system which is to better serve the unfortunate and impoverished, especially those persons with behavioral health issues. This need requires a joint approach by all branches of government. For example, the criminal courts, the sheriff's department, and the department of corrections have identified the behavioral health issues of numbers of defendants and incarcerated persons.

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 am a judge who firmly believes in the rule of law and is committed to interpreting and applying the law. I have heard that this is my reputation on both sides of the trial bar. Through almost twenty-four years of research and experience, I have gained a vast knowledge of the law to apply in every one of the jury trials before me. As the law is my guide, my integrity and impartiality can never be questioned. Further, my legal abilities cannot be questioned. I have initiated procedural changes and adjustments in attitude and perspective to address temperament.