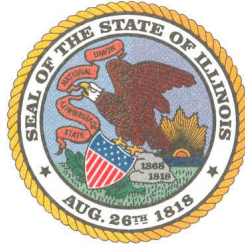


STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BRENDAN A. MAHER
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
400 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 215
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101
PHONE (815) 319-4800

For Immediate Release

September 18, 2026

Contact: Thomas R. Jakeway
Trial Court Administrator
Phone : 815-319-4806
Email: tjakeway@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov

PRESS RELEASE

**CANDIDATES FOR BOONE COUNTY
PUBLIC DEFENDER POSITION ANNOUNCED**

ROCKFORD, IL – Brendan A. Maher, Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit Court, announced the following list of candidates who have applied to fill the position of Boone County Public Defender:

Aaron Buscemi
Britt Hawkins
Bradford Morrison
Christopher Solger

Kristin Carpenter
Neal Hermanson
John Palmer
Amanda Turek

Rebecca Chinery
Chrissie Lee
Frank Perri

The Circuit Judges of the 17th Circuit are inviting written comments regarding these candidates from any interested individuals and organizations. Comments must be in writing and received by the Chief Judge no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2026. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Anyone wishing to comment should direct their correspondence by U.S. mail to Chief Judge Brendan A. Maher, Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 West State Street, Suite 215, Rockford, Illinois 61101 or by email to kfink@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov.

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