

STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BRENDAN A. MAHER
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
400 WEST STATE STREET, ROOM 215
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NOTICE OF VACANCY

ASSOCIATE JUDGE - SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

The Supreme Court of Illinois has authorized the Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit to post a notice of vacancy for the office of Associate Judge. This vacancy is based on the retirement of Associate Judge Steven L. Nordquist, effective July 31, 2026. Applications are now being accepted. The vacancy will be filled by vote of the Circuit Judges in the 17th Judicial Circuit.

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39, any United States citizen who is an attorney licensed to practice law in Illinois, and a resident of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit may apply by electronically filing a signed application with the Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts on the form prescribed and furnished by the Director. The instructions for submitting an application electronically are available on the Supreme Court's website: <http://illinoiscourts.gov>.


If unable to submit an application electronically, an applicant must submit two (2) signed originals of the prescribed application with the Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts at the address listed below:

Marcia M. Meis, Director
Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
3101 Old Jacksonville Road
Springfield, IL 62704-6488

Whether electronically filed, mailed or hand delivered, all applications must be received by the Administrative Office within thirty (30) days after the date of this notice. **If filed electronically, the deadline is 11:59 PM on Monday, June 1, 2026. If mailed or hand delivered, the deadline is 5:00 PM on Monday, June 1, 2026.** Application forms can be obtained from the Office of Chief Judge of 17th Judicial Circuit, from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, or from the Supreme Court's website: <http://illinoiscourts.gov>, and downloaded from the Judicial Vacancies link. **Applications submitted via facsimile will not be accepted.**

The list of applicants will be submitted for polling to the Illinois State Bar Association. Applicants will also be required to make themselves available for an interview and screening process with the Circuit Judges of the 17th Judicial Circuit. Applicants will be notified of the date, time and location of the interviews and details of the screening process at the close of the application phase. Applicants or their designees are to refrain from contacting individually any Circuit or Associate Judge concerning his/her candidacy or the selection process.

Dated this 1st day of May 2026.


Brendan A. Maher
Chief Judge
17th Judicial Circuit