17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT
POSTING FOR SERVICES

WINNEBAGO COUNTY ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER (CONFLICT COUNSEL)

The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court is seeking a qualified attorney to serve as conflict counsel on a contract basis for cases in which the Winnebago County Public Defender's Office has a legal conflict and cannot provide representation.

The position is projected to be **filled in early January 2027**.

LOCATION: Winnebago County – Rockford, Illinois

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

The selected applicant will serve as an independent contractor pursuant to agreed terms and conditions, and will operate within parameters established by the Office of the Chief Judge. Conflict counsel shall represent parties in cases where the Judiciary of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court determines that representation by the Winnebago County Public Defender's Office is not appropriate due to a conflict.

- Caseloads will be determined by the acceptance of any and all matters assigned by the Court.
- Assignments may include:
    - Pending felony cases
    - Misdemeanor and traffic matters
    - Post-trial representation
    - Probation violation hearings
    - Post-conviction proceedings
- No guarantee is made as to a minimum or maximum caseload.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Must possess a valid license to practice law in the State of Illinois.
- Must be in good standing with the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC).
- Demonstrated experience in criminal matters, including post-conviction proceedings, is required.

- Must maintain:
  - All applicable professional licenses
  - Professional liability insurance

COMPENSATION:
$2,850.00 per month. No Benefits. Independent contractor is responsible for all state, local and federal tax obligations and the maintenance of all office and equipment expenses.

APPLICANTS SHOULD SEND RESUME AND COVER LETTER ELECTRONICALLY TO:
Thomas R. Jakeway, Trial Court Administrator
Office of the Chief Judge
400 W. State St. Suite 215
Rockford, IL 61101
tjakeway@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov

POSTED: November 9, 2026 **POSTING END:** November 30, 2026