

# FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CIRCUIT JUDGE

William J. Thurston  
Chief Judge

Williamson County Courthouse  
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Marion, IL 62959

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### NOTICE OF VACANCY

#### ASSOCIATE JUDGE – FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Authorization pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 39 has been received by the Chief Judge of the First Judicial Circuit to post a notice of vacancy for associate judge. The vacancy is the result of the retirement of the Honorable Jeffrey A. Goffinet, Associate Judge, First Judicial Circuit, effective July 24, 2026. Applications are now being accepted for this vacancy which will be filled by vote of the Circuit Judges of the First 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 First 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: <https://www.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 30 days after the date of this Notice. **If filed electronically, the deadline is 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. If mailed or hand delivered, the deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026.** Application forms can be obtained from the Chief Judge's Office, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, or from the Illinois Supreme Court's website: <http://illinoiscourts.gov> and downloaded from the Judicial Vacancies link. **Applications submitted via facsimile will not be accepted.**

Applicants will be required to make themselves available for an interview and screening process with the Circuit Judges of the First Judicial Circuit. Applicants will be notified of the date, time, and location of the interview and details of the screening process at the close of the application phase.

Dated 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026.

  
WILLIAM J. THURSTON  
Chief Judge, First Judicial Circuit

### COUNTIES

Alexander ● Jackson ● Johnson ● Massac ● Pope ● Pulaski ● Saline ● Union ● Williamson