



Supreme Court of Illinois

July 27, 2026

JUSTICE SANJAY T. TAILOR ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF JUDICIAL SCREENING COMMITTEE

Justice Sanjay T. Tailor of the Supreme Court of Illinois has announced the formation of a standing Judicial Screening Committee (Committee). The Committee has been formed for the purpose of assessing the qualifications of those who apply for appointment to vacancies in the Supreme Court's First District - Cook County.

Under the Illinois Constitution, judicial vacancies on the Circuit and Appellate Courts are filled on an interim basis by Supreme Court appointment. Appointed individuals then must run in the next election to maintain the seat.

The Committee consists of former judges as well as attorneys who reside in Cook County.

The members of the Committee are the Hon. Ketki Shroff Steffen (ret.), the Hon. Patricia Holmes (ret.), the Hon. Rita Novak (ret.), Paul Castiglione of the Khowaja Law Firm, LLC, Monica Khetarpal of Jackson Lewis PC, Juan Morado, Jr., of Benesch Law, Jesse Ruiz of The Vistria Group, Joan Akalaonu of Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, Linda Coberly of Winston Taylor LLP, John C. Sciacotta of Aronberg Goldgehn Davis & Garmisa, Jeffrey M. Mathis of King & Jones, Eirene N. Salvi of Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C., Daniel Kotin of Tomasik Kotin Kasserman, LLC, Adam Zebelian of Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP, Joel Bruckman of Smith, Gambrell, & Russell, LLP, Jeanette Sublett of Neal & Leroy, LLC, and Donna Haddad of the Northwestern University Energy Innovation Lab.

The Hon. Ketki Shroff Steffen (ret.) and Paul Castiglione will serve as co-chairs of the Committee.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: James Brunner, Public Information Officer of the Illinois Supreme Court at 217.208.3354 or jbrunner@illinoiscourts.gov.)