

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2005

SUPREME COURT FILLS VACANCIES ON APPELLATE COURT

The Supreme Court of Illinois announced Wednesday the appointment of Belleville attorney Stephen P. McGlynn to the Appellate Court of the 5th Judicial District to fill the seat that will be vacated by the expiration of the temporary appointment of Judge Clyde L. Kuehn.

Judge Kuehn's appointment expires on July 7, 2005, and Mr. McGlynn's appointment becomes effective July 8 and will terminate on December 4, 2006.

In a separate order, the Supreme Court also announced the assignment of Circuit Court Judge Stephen L. Spomer, longtime resident judge of Alexander County in the First Judicial Circuit, to fill another open spot on the Appellate Court. Judge Spomer's assignment is effective July 1, 2005 and will continue until further order of the Court.

Mr. McGlynn, 43, a fourth generation member of the firm, McGlynn & McGlynn which was founded in 1896, has experience in many aspects of the law and has handled high stakes cases for both plaintiffs and defendants. He also has represented governmental entities including the State of Illinois and the City of St. Louis, and his practice has included the creation of multimillion dollar businesses, international contracts, banking and finance transactions as well as commercial and industrial real estate transactions.

He was chosen in an application process that included review by a seven-member screening committee appointed by Supreme Court Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, who recommended Mr. McGlynn's appointment to the Court.

The committee members were: Clarence W. DeMoss, a partner in Justice Karmeier's former law firm, Hohlt, House, DeMoss and Epplin of Nashville; Matthew R. Hortenstine, a partner with Taylor Law Offices in Effingham; J. Thomas Long, an attorney and chairman of First National Bank of Grant Park, Illinois;

Timothy Neubauer, a member of the Mount Vernon firm, Neubauer, Hanson & Overstreet, and a former member of the Board of Review of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission; Alice Noble-Allgire, associate professor at the Southern Illinois

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University School of Law: Gayl Pyatt, a practicing lawyer in Pinckneyville; and John W. Sanders, a partner in the Marion law firm, Sanders & Sanders.

The law firm for which Mr. McGlynn has worked handles complex matters in the Illinois, Missouri and U.S. Courts. The firm is listed in Martindale-Hubbell's The Bar Register of Pre-Eminent Lawyers, a registry of those firms who have demonstrated the "highest level of legal ability" and maintained a "very high adherence to the professional standards of conduct, ethics, reliability and diligence."

Mr. McGlynn received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Dayton with a major in political science and minors in philosophy and history. He studied abroad in Germany and Ireland. He received his *juris doctor* from the St. Louis University School of Law in 1987, where he was the recipient of the American Judicature Society's American Jurisprudence Award in Advanced Commercial Transactions.

He was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1987, and has also been admitted to practice in Missouri, and in federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

He was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General of Illinois from 1996 to 2004 and represented the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

He has been active in numerous civic matters and has been a regular contributor of pro bono work for the NAACP and indigent African-Americans who could not pay for legal representation in various legal matters.

He is married to Mary Anne (nee Lindauer) and the couple has a daughter, Dorothy Elizabeth.

Judge Kuehn was appointed to the Appellate Court December 6, 2004 on a short-term basis to fill the vacancy of Gordon S. Maag, who failed to win retention last November.

In a separate matter, Justice Karmeier also recommended the assignment of Judge Spomer, filling a vacancy left by the election last November of Judge James K. Donovan to the Appellate Court. Before he was elected, Judge Donovan sat by assignment on the Appellate Court.

Judge Spomer, 56, has been resident Circuit Judge in Alexander County since 1978. He was elected by his colleagues to be Chief Judge of the First Judicial Circuit three times and served in that position from 1992 to 1998.

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In his most recent Judicial Advisory Poll Results conducted by the Illinois State Bar Association, a very high number – more than 96 percent -- of the responding attorneys familiar with Judge Spomer's judicial record gave him approval ratings for integrity, legal ability, temperament, court management, and sensitivity to diversity and bias.

Judge Spomer received his bachelor of arts degree from Tulane University, majoring in history and political science and his *juris doctor* from Tulane in 1974.

Before becoming a judge, he was Massac County State's Attorney in Metropolis from 1976 to 1978; public defender for Johnson and Massac counties in 1975 and 1976; and in private practice as a solo practitioner in Cairo in 1974-78.

On the Circuit Court, Judge Spomer has handled all varieties of cases including small claims, medical malpractice, class actions, divorce, probate, criminal misdemeanors and capital felonies.

He and his wife, Debra, have a daughter.