

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT  
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

EUGENE G. DOHERTY  
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
400 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 215  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101  
PHONE (815) 319-4800

October 6, 2021

**For Immediate Release**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**RETIREMENT OF ASSOCIATE JUDGE JOHN H. YOUNG  
AND POSTING OF ASSOCIATE JUDGESHIP**

**ROCKFORD, IL** – Associate Judge John H. Young has announced that he will retire from his position on January 3, 2022. Judge Young was appointed as an associate judge on April 3, 2007. During his tenure, he was assigned in both Winnebago and Boone Counties, but served the majority of his judicial career in Boone County. He has presided in all types of courtrooms including civil, family and criminal.

Eugene G. Doherty, Chief Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, commented, “John Young has had an exemplary career as a judge. He has always demonstrated fairness, diligence and competence.”

Judge Young graduated from Belvidere High School (1978), received his undergraduate degree in political science from Judson College (1982), and received his Juris Doctor from Drake Law School (1985). Prior to taking the bench, he practiced law at the law firm of Reno & Zahm, LLP. He is an active member of the Illinois Judges Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Boone County Bar Association, and the Winnebago County Bar Association.

Judge Young stated, “I have been assisted by so many people: clerks, bailiffs, court reporters, interpreters, state’s attorneys, public defenders, private lawyers, court administration, and of course my judicial colleagues. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Winnebago and Boone Counties.”

The Illinois Supreme Court has authorized the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court to post a notice of vacancy for an associate judgeship. The application period for this vacancy will remain open until November 5, 2021. A copy of the notice of vacancy is attached and is accessible at: <http://17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov> and <http://illinoiscourts.gov>.

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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 impending retirement of Associate Judge John H. Young, effective January 3, 2022. 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**

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICE  
OF ASSOCIATE JUDGE WAS REVISED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 AND ONLY  
APPLICATIONS ON THE REVISED FORM WILL BE ACCEPTED**

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 Friday, November 5, 2021. If mailed or hand delivered, the deadline is 5:00 PM on Friday, November 5, 2021.** Application forms can be obtained from the Office of Chief Judge, 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 W. State St., Room 215, Rockford, Illinois, 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.

  
Eugene G. Doherty, Chief Judge  
17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit