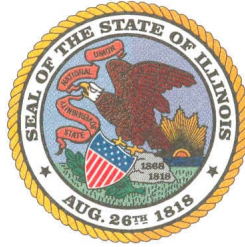


STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BRENDAN A. MAHER
Chief Judge



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

For Immediate Release

August 25, 2026

Contact: Thomas R. Jakeway
Trial Court Administrator
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Email: tjakeway@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov

PRESS RELEASE

**NOTICE OF VACANCY POSTED FOR
BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER**

ROCKFORD, IL – Brendan A. Maher, Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit, has officially posted a notice of vacancy for the position of Boone County Public Defender. This vacancy is based on the selection of Public Defender Kathryn J. Cross to serve as an associate judge, with her swearing-in scheduled for September 2, 2026.

Employment responsibilities, qualifications, and instructions on how to apply are provided in the attached Notice of Vacancy. **Applications must be received by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, September 15, 2026.** The vacancy will be filled by vote of the Circuit Judges in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit.

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