



For Immediate Release

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**REAPPOINTMENT, GRANT AWARD AND ILLINOIS JUSTICECORPS FELLOW WILL
HELP AID SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS**

*Kane County receives a \$15,000 grant, renews the
appointments of a Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator and
an Illinois JusticeCorps Fellow*

ST. CHARLES, IL, 8/10/2021– Halle Cox, Director of the Kane County Law Library & Self Help Legal Center has been reappointed for the fourth year in a row as the Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator for the Sixteenth Circuit by the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. This appointment is the result of a grant program created to support the establishment of a statewide network of trial court staff to evaluate and address the evolving needs of self-represented litigants in civil courts.

According to the Commission, duties of the Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator include “facilitating the sharing of resources and best practices across county lines and judicial circuits to more effectively address the self-help service gaps seen throughout the state.” Coordinators will identify, develop, and implement new tools and resources in their local courthouses, and as they become aware of other Coordinator’s successes throughout the state, will share resources and strive for the best possible consistent service across circuit courts in Illinois.

Along with the appointment, a Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator may be awarded monies to cover expenses related to the development of new resources and services for self-represented litigants. The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit has been awarded \$15,000 for Cox’s proposed goals which include the purchase of equipment, databases, and software to better support the needs of self-represented litigants in eFiling, attending court hearings remotely (Zoom Court), locating general legal information, accessing court interpreters, and

participating in Lawyer in the Library programs.

The other crucial role of Cox in her yearlong appointment is to provide onsite coordination for the Sixteenth Judicial Court's second award in 2021—a full-time JusticeCorps Fellow in Illinois. The Fellow's focus will be helping the public navigate the legal system and to make courts a more welcoming and less intimidating place for those without lawyers. Sixteenth Judicial Circuit's Chief Judge Clint Hull said of the appointment and grant award, "The continuance of the Illinois JusticeCorps program remains a welcome addition to the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. Each JusticeCorps Fellow has contributed greatly in helping our self-represented litigants successfully navigate the court system, creating a more positive experience and perception of our legal system as a whole."

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