

16th Judicial Circuit Court
County of Kane
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE ROBERT K. VILLA
KANE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER
37W777 Route 38, Suite 301
St. Charles, Illinois 60175



For Immediate Release
Two Finalists Announced for Kane County Judge Vacancy

March 24, 2026 – Kane County, Illinois – Chief Judge Robert K. Villa is pleased to announce that, following a meeting of the Circuit Judges of the 16th Judicial Circuit, Vincent Michael Coyle, J.D., and Ericka J. Thomas, J.D., have been selected as the finalists to fill the Associate Judge vacancy. The vacancy is the result of the appointment of Associate Judge Julia A. Yetter to the Circuit Court, effective February 2, 2026.

Vincent Michael Coyle, J.D.: John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois, 2010
Admitted to practice law in 2010, Mr. Coyle is currently an Assistant State’s Attorney in the Kane County State’s Attorney’s Office, Civil Division. Prior to that, he worked in the Criminal Division of the Kane County State’s Attorney’s Office. He was a member of the *Journal of Computer and Information Law Review* at John Marshall Law School. Mr. Coyle is currently an active member of the Kane County Bar Association, Illinois Prosecutor Bar Association, and Illinois State Bar Association. He volunteers in his local community.

Ericka J. Thomas, J.D.: Valparaiso University, School of Law, Valparaiso, Indiana, 1992
Admitted to practice law in 1992, Ms. Thomas is currently a Partner at Ottosen, DiNolfo, Hasenbalg & Castaldo Ltd. and focuses her practice on local government law, including civil rights and harassment defense litigation, commission work, police and fire pension work, and local prosecution. Prior to joining Ottosen DiNolfo in 1998, she worked as an Assistant State’s Attorney in the Criminal Divisions of the Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office and the Macon County State’s Attorney’s Office. Ms. Thomas is currently a member of the Kane County Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, and Illinois State Bar Association. She has been an active member in various local school programs and a frequent presenter at fire protection conferences.

To be eligible for the associate judge appointment, applicants must be United States citizens, licensed to practice law in Illinois, and residents of the 16th Judicial Circuit.

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Ellen Schmid, Judicial Communications Manager
Office of the Chief Judge and Court Administrator
16th Judicial Circuit Court
Email: SchmidEllen@16thCircuit.IllinoisCourts.gov
Phone: 630-232-3443