

Independent Voters of Illinois-Independent Precinct Organization
2004 Cook County Circuit Court
CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

In order to be favorably considered for an IVI-IPO endorsement, you should follow these instructions carefully.

YOUR RESPONSES SHOULD BE TYPED AND INCLUDE BOTH THE QUESTIONS AND THE ANSWERS; otherwise, the reader will be confused. Handwritten answers, especially those scrawled into spaces between the questions, will reflect poorly upon your campaign effort.

Please be sure to complete the contact information and the 7 background questions. Following the cover sheet is a questionnaire specific to the office you seek, which also should be completed.

Questionnaires are in Word 2000 and can be emailed to you. Please send your request to office@iviipo.org

Please submit fifteen (15) copies of this questionnaire and two (2) copies of your Bar Association or Alliance questionnaire to the IVI-IPO office no later than 5pm Monday, January 5, 2004. Candidates who fail to meet this deadline will not be able to be considered for endorsement.

Prior to the final endorsement, completed questionnaires will be available for review only by IVI-IPO members. Candidates, even if they are members, will not be able to view their opponents' responses until after the endorsements have been made, at which time completed IVI-IPO questionnaires will be available for review by members, candidates, the press or the public. Bar Association/Alliance questionnaires are for the use of the Judicial Review Committee for reference purposes only and will remain confidential.

The IVI-IPO Judicial Review Committee will make its recommendations to the Board of Directors by the end of January. For each vacancy, the committee may recommend that one candidate be endorsed, that both candidates be endorsed, or that the Board make no endorsement.

All candidates who submit their questionnaires by the January 5 deadline will be notified by mail or email of the endorsement decision. IVI-IPO will arrange a press conference to announce our recommendations. The Independent Campaign Committee (ICC) will work with IVI-IPO supported candidates to publicize our endorsements.

If you have any further questions, please contact our office at 312-939-5105. We wish you good luck in your endorsement application and in your campaign.

IVI-IPO COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT QUESTIONNAIRE – Page 1

DATE _____

CANDIDATE FOR _____ VACANCY PARTY _____

NAME _____

VOTING ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ WEB SITE _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS _____

CAMPAIGN PHONE _____ FAX _____

CAMPAIGN MANAGER _____

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED _____ NUMBER REQUIRED _____

Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.

Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

Please detail your prior political activity, if any. Give positions held, dates, organizational memberships, role you played in political campaigns.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

Please state any evaluation ratings you have ever received for any judicial office by any bar association. List the office and the date of the election for which the evaluation was made. Please use the following format:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Bar Association</i>	<i>Rating</i>
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IVI-IPO COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT QUESTIONNAIRE – Page 2

1. What do you believe are the major strengths and weaknesses of the Circuit Court? Would you change the manner in which the Circuit Court functions?
2. How should the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court be chosen?
3. How should judges be assigned to the various divisions of the Court? If you are elected, to what division would you like to be assigned and why?
4. What is your position on how judges are selected and/or elected? Please explain.
5. As a circuit court judge, how would you balance any moral or ethical/philosophical disagreements that you may have with any existing statutes or legal precedents?
6. If a sitting judge were indicted, should the judge remain on the bench, resign or take a leave of absence? Please explain.
7. What are your views concerning mandatory sentencing for criminal offenses?
8. What are your views concerning treating minors as adults for criminal offenses?
9. What do you consider the important aspects of a judge's decision in handling a petition by a minor for a waiver of parental notice with the intent to have an abortion?