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## LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PUBLISHES EVALUATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS CIRCUIT JUDGE

The Lake County Bar Association (LCBA) has just completed two separate evaluation processes for the current slate of candidates for the office of Circuit Judge. Judges who preside in Illinois trial courts obtain their positions in two different ways: Circuit Judges are elected by the public, and Associate Judges are appointed by the Circuit Judges. The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in Lake County currently has 15 Circuit and 25 Associate judge positions.

The LCBA evaluates judicial candidates in two different ways. The first way is a member survey, in which every active attorney member of the LCBA receives a ballot by e-mail. Regarding the candidates' qualifications for judicial office, members are asked to respond yes or no to questions relating to the candidates' integrity, impartiality, legal abilities, temperament, and court management ability. Members are asked to evaluate only those candidates they know, and a final question asks generally whether the member believes the candidate meets the requirements for judicial office. The complete results of the member survey regarding the Circuit Judge applicants are enclosed with this press release (the LCBA only releases results for those candidates rated by at least 25% of the members responding).

The second way the LCBA evaluates candidates is through the Association's Judicial Selection and Retention Committee. The Committee is comprised of 16 members of the Association who are appointed for staggered three-year terms. The Committee meets when judicial positions need to be filled and vets candidates based on an extensive application and interview process.

After interviewing each candidate, the Committee votes anonymously, with each member choosing one of four rankings: Highly Qualified, Qualified, Not Qualified, or Not Rated. Candidates receive a "Highly Qualified" rating if at least 60% of the Committee's voting members select that rating. Candidates are "Qualified" if at least 60% of the Committee's members select either "Qualified" or "Highly Qualified." Those candidates not receiving a 60% affirmative vote are rated as "Not Qualified." Candidates receive a "Not Rated" if they did not participate in the evaluation process. Evaluations are valid for three years. The results of the Committee's evaluation are enclosed with this release.

The LCBA's bylaws do not provide for the Association to make endorsements regarding judicial candidates or judicial re-appointments. Opinions expressed by individual members of the Lake County Bar Association do not constitute endorsements by the Association or by any of its committees.

## Ratings of 2020 Candidates for Election as Circuit Judge

Rhonda "Randie" Bruno - Highly Qualified

**Christopher Morozin - Highly Qualified** 

**Donald Tyer - Qualified** 

Danielle Pascucci - Not Rated

Marnie Slavin - Not Rated

The Lake County Bar Association is headquartered in Waukegan, Illinois and has a membership of over 900 lawyer and associate members. Among other goals, the Association's members seek to foster respect for the administration of law, to increase attorneys' and the public's knowledge of law through continuing legal education, and to uphold the honor and dignity of the legal profession. For more information, visit www.lakebar.org.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with David Del Re, Chair of the Judicial Selection & Retention Committee, please call Dale Perrin at 847-244-3143 or email dale@lakebar.org.

**Lake County Bar Association** 

300 Grand Ave STE A Waukegan, IL 60085



Completed surveys 196 25% of responses (required for publication)

49.00

February 2020 Bar Poll

FOR PUBLIC	Voters Knowledge		Integrity		Impartiality		Legal Abilities		Temperament		Court Management		Meets Requirements	
RELEASE	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
BRUNO, Rhonda	70%												60%	
	137	31	107	25	96	34	85	45	82	50	93	32	79	53
MOROZIN, Christopher	73%												91%	
	143	22	137	4	129	13	126	15	128	14	132	9	127	13
TYER, Donald	44%												45%	
	86	77	67	18	55	28	34	49	61	24	43	40	37	46
PASCUCCI, Danielle	52%												17%	
	101	64	37	59	25	74	22	75	26	72	34	60	17	82
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