

**UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES**

**PUBLIC**

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Jorge Luis Alonso

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office:           George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building  
                      2600 South California Avenue  
                      Courtroom 207  
                      Chicago, Illinois 60608

Residence:     Park Ridge, Illinois

4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.

1966; Sagua La Grande, Las Villas, Cuba

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1988 – 1991, George Washington University Law School; J.D., 1991

1986 – 1988, University of Miami; B.A., 1988

1984 – 1986, Miami-Dade College, no degree

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2003 – present  
George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building  
2600 South California Avenue  
Courtroom 207  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
Associate Judge

1991 – 2003  
Office of the Cook County Public Defender  
69 West Washington Street, 16th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
Assistant Public Defender

August 1990 – June 1991, March 1989 – June 1990  
Ashcraft & Gerel  
2000 L Street N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20036  
Law Clerk

Summer 1990  
Office of the Public Defender 11th Judicial Circuit  
1320 N.W. 14th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125  
Summer Law Clerk

1986 – 1988  
University of Miami  
School of Business Administration  
Jenkins Building, Room 321  
5250 University Drive  
Coral Gables, Florida 33124  
Teacher's Assistant

Other affiliations (uncompensated):

2009 – present  
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School  
1852 West 22nd Place  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
Junior Board Member

2006 – present  
Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund  
309 West Washington Street, Suite 1250

Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Board Member

2002 – 2003  
Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois  
2332 North Milwaukee Avenue, Suite 104  
Chicago, Illinois 60647  
Board Member

1998 – 2000  
The Guild Complex of Chicago  
P.O. Box 47880  
Chicago, Illinois 60647  
Board Member

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the U.S. Military. I timely registered for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

University of Miami Bowman-Ash Scholarship (1986 – 1988)

George Washington University Scholarship (1988 – 1991)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

American Bar Association (approximately 1991 – 1992)  
Chicago Bar Association (2002 – 2014)  
Chicago Inn of Court (2011 – present)  
Differentiated Case Management Pilot Project (2009)  
Disproportionate Minority Confinement Committee (2007)  
Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois (2002 – 2014)  
Illinois Association of Drug Court Professionals (2012 – 2014)  
Illinois Association of Problem Solving Courts (2013 – present)  
Illinois Capital Litigation Trial Bar, Lead Counsel (2002)  
Illinois Judges Association (2003 – present)  
Associate Judge Committee (2003)

Illinois Judicial Education Conference (2010 – 2014)  
Faculty  
Illinois Latino Judge Association (2013 – present)  
Lawyers’ Assistance Program (2003 – present)  
Judicial Intervener  
Lawyers Club of Chicago (2011 – present)  
Mental Health Court Association of Illinois (2012 – 2013)  
New Judge Training Seminar (Cook County) (2014)  
Faculty  
New Judge Seminar (2008 – 2014)  
Faculty  
Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois (2002 – 2014)  
Board Member (2002 – 2003)  
Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases (2010 – 2011)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Illinois, 1991

There has been no lapse in membership.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, 1991  
Supreme Court of the United States, 1995

There have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

26th Street Readers (2011 – 2013)  
Founder (2011)

AFSCME, Local 3315 (1991 – 2003)  
Union Representative (2000 – 2001)  
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School (2009 – present)  
Junior Board Member  
Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund (2006 – present)  
Board Member (2011 – present)  
DePaul University, School for New Learning (2008 – 2009)  
Professional Advisor  
Muscular Dystrophy Association (1995 – 2004)  
Volunteer Camp Director  
Park Ridge Country Club (2009 - present)  
Social Member

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge the organizations listed in response to 11a above do not, and did not formerly, discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, or sexual orientation, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

**12. Published Writings and Public Statements:**

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

During college, I served as a staff writer for student newspapers, titled Catalyst and The Miami Hurricane. After reviewing my files and the Internet, I have been able to locate the following articles:

Jorge Alonso, *New Law Affects Students*, The Miami Hurricane, January 23, 1987. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *UM Buildings Not Hazardous But Violate Law*, The Miami Hurricane, November 4, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Lab Fees Confuse Students*, The Miami Hurricane, October 14, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Thoughts Of A Cuban-American*, Catalyst, April 10, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Trustees Say Yes To Lottery To Raise Funds For Education*, Catalyst, March 13, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Sexual Bias Not Issue On Campus, Women Say*, Catalyst, March 6, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Thefts On Campus A Major Problem, Faculty Senate Says*, Catalyst, February 13, 1986. Copy supplied.

Jorge Alonso, *Students' Hands Speak Out Here*, Catalyst, January 30, 1986. Copy supplied.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

In 2007, while serving as an appointed member of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Committee, I contributed to the preparation of the Committee's Mission Statement. Copy supplied.

Between 2010 and 2011, I was appointed to the Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases. The Supreme Court appointed me after many reforms had already been implemented based in part on recommendations that had been made by the Committee prior to my appointment. I participated in the drafting of a report reflecting on the history of the Committee.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

None.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom

the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

The list that follows represents my best efforts, through searches of my records, calendars, and Internet databases, to identify speeches and remarks that I have given. There may, however be additional speeches and remarks that I have given, but I have been unable to identify exact date and times. In my personal practice, I have not used prepared texts, outlines or notes.

Since 2011, I have spoken to young women in the courthouse annually at the “Women Everywhere” event in Chicago, Illinois. I also address graduates of my specialty call, “Women’s Justice Mental Health” call, approximately twice a year. I generally congratulate the graduates on their accomplishments and present them with certificates. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The “Women Everywhere” presentations and graduation ceremonies are held at the George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building, 2600 South California Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60608.

Since 2008, I have regularly attended career days at various high schools in Chicago, Illinois. I do not recall every event, but these visits have included my annual presentations at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School since 2008, a presentation at Kelly High School in 2013, and at Morton High School in 2009. I also was Principal for a Day at Kanoon Delgado elementary in 2012 and 2013. During these events, I discussed the value of education and encouraged the students to stay in school. I have no notes, transcript or recording.

Since 2003, I have volunteered as a moot court judge at the University of Chicago Law School’s annual Intensive Practice Workshop in Chicago, Illinois. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address of the University of Chicago Law School is 1111 East 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

June 19, 2014: Speaker/Panelist, The United States Agency for International Development and the Mexico Justice and Security Program, Chicago, Illinois. I was a member of a panel that addressed Mexican prosecutors who were in Chicago for a weeklong study tour of the American criminal justice system. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the United States Agency for International Development is 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington D.C. 20004.

May 19, 2014: Faculty, New Judges Training Seminar, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, Illinois. Along with other judges, I presented a three-hour continuing judicial education course on the disposition of criminal cases without trial and issues related to bench trials. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address of the Circuit Court of Cook County is 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

April 10-11 2014, January 30-31, 2014, April 16-17, 2012, January 30-31, 2012: Faculty, Education Conference, Illinois Courts, Lombard, Illinois. Along with other judges, I presented this continuing judicial education class on post-conviction issues. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Illinois Supreme Court is 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

March 1, 2014: Panelist, Sixth Annual Illinois Latino Law Forum, Chicago, Illinois. I was on a panel of judges that discussed our experiences as lawyers as well as our paths to the bench. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for Illinois Latino Law Students Association is 315 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

From 2011 to 2013, I organized a group of attorneys, named the 26th Street Readers, as tutors/mentors for fourth and fifth grade students at Kanoon Delgado elementary. We assisted the children with their homework and emphasized the importance of studying. I have no notes, transcript or recording. 26th Street Readers is now defunct.

December 2013, January 2013, December 2011, January 2011, December 2009, January 2009, December 2007: Along with other judges, I have served as faculty in the New Judges Seminar for the Illinois Supreme Court in Chicago, Illinois. These two-hour courses have involved a criminal law course regarding the setting of bonds, Gerstein hearings, preliminary hearings, jury waiver and right to counsel. We also have lectured on guilty pleas and sentencing. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address of the Illinois Supreme Court is 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

July 15, 2013: Speaker, National Autonomous University of Mexico in Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. I was one of two speakers who addressed Mexican students studying in the United States. I discussed my career as a lawyer and a judge. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the National Autonomous University of Mexico in Chicago is 350 West Erie Street, Suite 300, Chicago, Illinois 60654.

June 28, 2013: Inductor, Induction Ceremony, Women's Criminal Defense Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois. I swore in the new officers of the bar association and made no additional comments. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Women's Criminal Defense Bar Association is 2134 West Chicago, Suite 100, Chicago, Illinois 60622.

May 6, 2013: Keynote Speaker, Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund Awards Ceremony, Chicago, Illinois. I spoke to a group of eighth graders about their limitless potential on the occasion of their being awarded scholarships to prestigious high schools. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for



the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund is 309 West Washington Street, Suite 1250, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

September 20, 2012: Panelist, Robes in School, Chicago, Illinois. I was on a panel of judges and spoke about the benefits of a law degree. I have no notes, transcripts or recording. The address for Just the Beginning Foundation is 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 6600, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

July 7, 2012: Judge, Operation PUSH Excel National Oratorical Contest, Chicago, Illinois. I served as one of multiple judges for an oratorical contest. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for Operation PUSH is 930 East 50th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60615.

April 2012, February 2010: Faculty, "You Sentenced the Defendant to What?," Education Conference, Illinois Supreme Court, Chicago Illinois. Along with other judges, I presented this 90-minute continuing judicial education class on sentencing issues. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Illinois Supreme Court is 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

October 17, 2011: Panelist, Recent Developments in Post-Conviction Law, Chicago, Illinois. I was on a panel that discussed recent changes to Illinois post-conviction law. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Cook County Public Defender's Office is 69 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

April 15, 2011: Featured Speaker, 37th Annual Scholarship and Awards banquet, *Creando Puentes: Nuestro Futuro, Nuestra Responsabilidad*, Chicago, Illinois. I addressed Latino law students regarding the opportunities that awaited them as future lawyers and the responsibilities they owed to the community. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Latino Law Student Association at DePaul University College of Law is 25 East Jackson Boulevard, Room 215, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

September 2, 2010: Panelist, Criminal Defense in a Nutshell IV, View from the Bench, Chicago, Illinois. I spoke to Cook County Public Defenders about the challenges of transitioning from practicing law to serving on the bench. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Cook County Public Defender's Office is 69 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

June 9, 2010: Inductor, Induction Ceremony, Chicago, Illinois. I swore in the new board of the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois and made no additional comments. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois is 321 South Plymouth Court, Suite 600, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

May 4, 2009: Inductor, Induction Ceremony, Park Ridge, Illinois. I swore in the

Mayor and City Clerk of Park Ridge and made no additional comments. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address of Park Ridge City Hall is 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068.

February 21, 2009: Panelist, Sixth Annual Illinois Latino Law Forum, Chicago, Illinois. I was on a panel of judges that discussed our experiences as lawyers as well as our paths to the bench. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for Illinois Latino Law Students Association is 315 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

*Community Forum*, CAN-TV, May 27, 2005. I was interviewed for the "Community Forum" television show on CAN-TV, regarding the upcoming Puerto Rican Heritage Courthouse Tour. Along with Judge Raul Vega, I taped one half-hour show in English, and one half-hour show in Spanish. I did not speak from prepared text and created no outline or notes. CAN-TV does not have any recordings of shows prior to 2009.

Kelley Quinn, *He is Said to Have a Well Trained Eye and Ear*, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, July 28, 2004. Copy supplied.

Barbara Brotman, *Battling Chaos, Public Defender Fights the System to get Parents, Kids, Back Together*, Chicago Tribune, July 7, 1993. Copy supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

I was appointed by the Supreme Court of Illinois after having been elected by the Circuit Court Judges of Cook County and took the oath of office as Associate Judge for the Cook County Judicial Circuit on April 23, 2003. After four years, I was re-appointed in July of 2007. Subsequently in July 2011, I was appointed to my third term. As an Associate Judge I have presided over state trial courts of general jurisdiction and have been granted authority to preside over felony cases by the Illinois Supreme Court.

I am presently assigned to a felony call at the Cook County Criminal Courthouse. I have been assigned to the Criminal Division since September 18, 2006. The call consists of approximately 300 cases at any given time involving charges ranging from first degree murder to Class 4 felonies. Cases are assigned to me for arraignment and remain on my call through disposition. I also preside over probation and post-conviction calls. On the post-conviction call I hear petitions brought under the Post-Conviction Hearing Act,

petitions for writ of mandamus, habeas corpus motions, as well as petitions for relief from judgment brought under the Civil Code.

Additionally, I preside over the Women's Justice Mental Health (WJMH) call. The WJMH is an individually funded specialty call, which I aided Presiding Judge Paul P. Biebel, Jr., to structure and create. The initial grant for this court was obtained in November 2009 and the final pre-launch meetings were held in September and October of 2010. Since its implementation on November 5, 2010, the WJMH has convened on the first and third Friday of each month. The WJMH call provides intensive and long-term support and services to women suffering from trauma and addiction. I oversee a team of doctors and addiction specialists who screen applicants and develop personalized rehabilitation plans.

Between February 7, 2005 and September 18, 2006, I was simultaneously presiding in the Second Municipal District and the Criminal Division and my caseload changed on a daily basis. I heard felony and misdemeanor cases as well as traffic matters. While I was not assigned to a civil call, I did preside over many hearings on petitions to rescind statutory summary suspensions, which were civil in nature.

My first assignment as a judge, beginning on April 23, 2003, was to the First Municipal District in the Chicago Traffic Court. I heard traffic cases and civil petitions to rescind. During that time I also rotated to multiple branch courts throughout the city and heard felony preliminary hearings and misdemeanor trials.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

I have presided over hundreds of cases that have gone to verdict or judgment. I have presided over approximately 88 jury trials.

- i. Of these, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	25%
bench trials:	75%
civil proceedings:	10%
criminal proceedings:	90%

- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

As a state court trial judge, I have only rarely issued written opinions. My trials have either involved juries or bench trials, where written opinions are uncommon and decisions are generally made from the bench. I do routinely issue written orders in post-conviction proceedings whenever I deny a post-conviction petition at the first stage. None of my opinions have been published, but the hard copies are housed with the clerk's office.

- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (3) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

1. *People v. Gibson*, 06 CR 0660701

Mr. Gibson was charged with three counts of first degree murder and one charge of attempted first degree murder, as well as attempted armed robbery counts, after a botched robbery attempt left three people dead from gunshot wounds. A fourth victim was shot in the head but survived. There were no eyewitnesses who could identify Mr. Gibson as the shooter. Mr. Gibson presented an alibi defense and established that at the time of the murders, he was confined to his home. He had been placed on an electronic home detention monitoring device on an unrelated pending felony charge. No violations of the device were shown to have occurred at the relevant time. The State attempted to prove their case by way of circumstantial evidence. They introduced DNA from a bandana found near the scene of the crimes, and played a video demonstrating the route Mr. Gibson could have taken, which, they argued, would not have violated the monitoring device. Mr. Gibson waived his right to a jury trial, and I found him not guilty of all charges.

State's Attorney

Annette Milleville  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Catherine D. Sanders (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
Triton College  
2000 5th Avenue  
River Grove, Illinois 60171  
708-828-3869

Defense Attorney

Robert Strunck (formerly Assistant Public Defender)  
Law Office of Robert Emmett Strunck  
2536 South California Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
312-532-1286

2. *People v. Tuduj*, 06 CR 1374601

Mr. Tuduj was charged with first degree murder in the stabbing death of his employer at their worksite. The victim had decreased Mr. Tuduj's salary the day before the stabbing, and the prosecution argued that this was the motive for murder. Mr. Tuduj presented an affirmative defense of involuntary intoxication as a result of prescribed medication. During his videotaped interrogation, Mr. Tuduj was recorded lunging for a police officer's weapon. On that same recording, Mr. Tuduj initially blamed the "spirit" or "fury" of his ex-wife for his actions. She was in prison for murdering her paramour's girlfriend with a bludgeon. She committed the murder while married to Mr. Tuduj, and he was a witness against her at her trial. On the eve of his trial, Mr. Tuduj attempted to fire his attorney and to have the case continued so that he could hire new counsel. After concluding that Mr. Tuduj was attempting to delay the proceedings and that retained counsel had effectively prepared to represent their client, I denied the motion for a continuance. Mr. Tuduj waived his right to jury, against advice of counsel, and after hearing from multiple medical and psychiatric experts, I found him guilty of all charges. I sentenced him to a term of 40 years imprisonment for murder and to a consecutive term of 5 years imprisonment for disarming a peace officer. The conviction and sentence were affirmed by the appellate court. *People v. Tuduj*, 2014 IL App. (1st) 092536, 9 N.E.3d 8 (2014).

State's Attorney

Judge Stephen J. Rosenblum (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
Fifth Municipal District  
10220 South 76th Avenue  
Bridgeview, Illinois 60453  
708-974-6288

Michael Clark  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
773-674-2700

Defense Attorneys

Thomas M. Breen and Todd Pugh  
Law Office of Breen & Pugh  
53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1460  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
312-360-1001

3. *People v. Harris*, 02 CR 1043804

Mr. Harris was one of multiple defendants charged with the gang related beating and killing of a young female victim. Mr. Harris was convicted at a bench trial of first degree murder pursuant to a theory of accountability. I sentenced him to 40 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The conviction and sentence were affirmed by the appellate court. *People v. Harris*, 996 N.E.2d 772 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision).

State's Attorney

Karen Kurbis  
Paul Joyce  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Defense Attorney

Ed Kozibowski  
Cook County Public Defender's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-3217

4. *People v. Montgomery*, 06 CR 0635801

Mr. Montgomery was charged with first degree murder after shooting the wrong man in what he thought was retaliation for an earlier sexual assault. The victim and his friend were spotted by a female witness and incorrectly identified as men who had made inappropriate sexual advances towards her months earlier. Upon learning that the men were in the area, Mr. Montgomery and the female witness drove to search them out. He found and approached the men, and shot and killed one of them. Mr. Montgomery then fled to a suburb of Chicago. He also housed and fed the female witness in a hotel for weeks in an attempt to evade the authorities. The jury found Mr. Montgomery guilty. I sentenced him to 50 years imprisonment for the murder and a consecutive 25 years on the mandatory gun enhancement. The appellate court affirmed the conviction and sentence. *People v. Montgomery*, 996 N.E.2d 773 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision).

State's Attorney

Michael Clark  
Paul Joyce

Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Defense Attorney

Stuart Goldberg  
Goldberg Criminal Defense  
980 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1400  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
773-327-9400

5. *People v. Sotelo*, 02 CR 2036801

Mr. Sotelo was charged with first degree murder in a gang-related shooting. The victim was drinking at the Last Chance Lounge, when he was alerted that teens were breaking his car windows with clubs. The victim, who was unaware that this was being done to lure him outside, exited the bar and was shot and killed. The issue at trial was identification. The identifying witness was on the second floor when she heard gunshots and looked out in time to see Mr. Sotelo approach the victim, who was on the ground, and shoot him again. Mr. Sotelo was wearing a hoodie at the time of the shooting, but the witness's identification, when combined with other circumstantial evidence, including third-party statements, was enough to convince the jury that the State had proven the charge of murder. I sentenced Mr. Sotelo to 45 years imprisonment. The appellate court affirmed the conviction and sentence. *People v. Sotelo*, 1 N.E.2d 121 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision).

State's Attorney

Michael Clark  
Patrick Morley  
Frank Lamas  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Defense Attorney

Alexander M. Salerno  
Law Offices of Alexander M. Salerno  
2505 Del Plaines  
North Riverside, Illinois 60546  
708-443-5400

6. *People v. Fletcher*, 06 CR 2559801

Mr. Fletcher was charged with the first degree murder of his friend. Mr. Fletcher and the victim had argued about a loan that the victim had made to Mr. Fletcher. Mr. Fletcher drove to the victim's home while armed with a firearm and shot and killed the unarmed victim during a confrontation. After doing so, Mr. Fletcher ran to his car and left in a panic. He cut his wrists and drove his car into a pond attempting to take his own life. Mr. Fletcher asserted self-defense and was permitted, over the State's objection, to introduce prior acts of violence by the victim. The jury received a second degree murder instruction and convicted Mr. Fletcher on that charge. I sentenced Mr. Fletcher to 18 ½ years in prison. The appellate court affirmed the conviction and sentence. *People v. Fletcher*, 993 N.E.2d 148 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision).

State's Attorney

Mary Jane Murtaugh  
Michael Clark  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
2650 South California  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Defense Attorney

Samuel E. Adams  
Henderson Adam, LLC  
330 South Wells Street, Suite 300  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
312-262-2900

7. *People v. Abdullah*, 09 CR 1246401

Mr. Abdullah was charged with shooting a waitress from the Ugly Hookah Cafe, an establishment that he frequented. Mr. Abdullah had repeatedly asked the victim out during the preceding months but she had declined his advances. On the night of the shooting, the victim and her friend had laughed at Mr. Abdullah because he had failed to remove a store tag from his pants. Mr. Abdullah waited until the victim left work and followed her in his car. He pulled up beside her and shot multiple times into her car as she told her friend on the phone that "Ali" was following her. The victim, unaware that she was shot, returned to the café and told patrons that "Ali" had thrown firecrackers at her. Police officers were summoned from across the street and called for the paramedics. The paramedics discovered that a bullet had entered victim's shoulder, traveled across the length of her back and come to a rest behind her other shoulder. Mr. Abdullah drove by the café



slowly while police and paramedics were treating the victim. Patrons announced his presence and a car chase ensued. Mr. Abdullah abandoned the car he was in and dove into the Chicago River. Although no one knew “Ali’s” last name, and the car was not registered to him, police were able to locate him the next day. He was arrested and a pile of wet clothing was recovered from his apartment. The jury convicted him of attempted first degree murder, and I sentenced him to 30 years in prison. The appellate court affirmed the conviction and sentence. *People v. Abdullah*, 2012 IL App. (1st) 110313-U, 2012 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2568 (2012).

State’s Attorney

Tom Kougias (formerly Assistant State’s Attorney)  
6000 North Lincoln Avenue, Suite 200  
Chicago, Illinois 60659  
773-678-5063

Natalie Howse  
Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office  
2650 South California  
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773-674-2700

Defense Attorney

Hal Garfinkel  
Law Offices of Hal M. Garfinkel  
111 West Washington Street, Suite 1301  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
312-629-0669

8. *People v. Gaston, Walker and Harris*, 09 CR 1684701-03

I initially presided over the jury trial of Mr. Gaston. I subsequently presided over the jury trial for Mr. Walker and Mr. Harris. After I granted a motion for severance, the trial of Mr. Walker and Mr. Harris proceeded simultaneously before two separate juries. Two of the defendants had been shot at while driving down a street. They returned home, picked up the third defendant, armed themselves with three firearms, and returned to the scene for revenge. Police were present, having responded to the initial call of shots fired. All three defendants opened fire, killing a young officer who was interviewing a witness. Officers canvassed the area and found a car fitting the description. They noted a fired cartridge that had lodged in the space between the trunk and the rear window of the car. All three defendants were apprehended. The Cook County State’s Attorney personally tried the cases. The State filed its notice of intent to seek the death penalty, but the death penalty was abolished in Illinois before the trials

commenced. A multitude of pre-trial motions were entertained and resolved. The evidence submitted at trial included DNA, fingerprint and gunshot residue test results. All defendants were convicted of first degree murder. I sentenced Mr. Gaston to 120 years in prison, and the appellate court affirmed the conviction and sentence. I sentenced Mr. Walker to 120 years in prison and Mr. Harris to 105 years in prison. The appeals are pending.

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Tod Urban and Nicole Massarello  
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9. *People v. Viramontes*, 10 CR 934102

Mr. Viramontes was charged with attempted murder and armed robbery of two women in the Bucktown neighborhood of Chicago. Mr. Viramontes used a baseball bat to beat and rob the women, one of whom was an exchange student from Northern Ireland. A girlfriend of Mr. Viramontes, who was charged as co-defendant, reached a negotiated plea agreement with the prosecution and testified

against him at trial. Pretrial issues included Mr. Viramontes' right to access her confidential mental health records, as well as the admissibility of DNA evidence. Another contested issue involved the State's introduction of a short video as demonstrative evidence. The video was used as an aid to help the mother of one of the victims describe the severity and permanency of the injuries sustained. The case received local, national and international publicity, which posed additional challenges. I presided over the jury trial, which resulted in Mr. Viramontes' conviction, and I thereafter sentenced him to 90 years in prison. The appeal is pending.

State's Attorney

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John Maher  
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Defense Attorney

Chandra Smith  
Richard Labrador  
David Dunne  
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10. *People v. Sansberry*, 10 CR 549501

Mr. Sansberry was a 15-year-old charged with shooting and paralyzing a 14-year-old victim. Mr. Sansberry attended a party at the victim's sister's apartment and, after becoming rowdy, was asked to leave. Mr. Sansberry waited outside of the home and a fight eventually broke out. The victim was beaten up by multiple people and then shot in the face. The victim and his family could not identify who shot him and, despite the fact that the shooting took place in front of a large crowd, police received very little assistance in their investigation. I permitted the prosecution to introduce prior statements of reluctant witnesses as substantive evidence, as well as the third-party statements of Mr. Sansberry. The jury convicted Mr. Sansberry of attempted murder. I sentenced him to 20 years in prison. His appeal is pending.

State's Attorney

Karen Kurbis

Frank Lamas  
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Defense Attorney

Dennis Giovannini  
Stefon Fenner  
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- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

As a state court trial judge, I typically have not issued written opinions in the course of my trials. I do, however, routinely issue written orders in post-conviction proceedings whenever I deny a petition at the first stage. The following is a list of the one written order that I could recall related to the denial of a motion to reconsider a sentence, as well as nine post-conviction orders. In the post-conviction system used by our court, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office does not assign a specific prosecutor to the case in the first stage of the proceeding. The post-conviction unit of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office simply monitors the status of the case. Because the nine post-conviction opinions included below were issued at this stage, I have provided general information for the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, rather than individual prosecutors.

1. *People v. Garcia*, 99 CR 2620401. Copy supplied

State's Attorney

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Defense Attorney

David F. Will

Henderson Adam, LLC  
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2. *People v. Anderson*, 93 CR 1538801 and 93 CR 1538809. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
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Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

3. *People v. Bowman*, 83 CR 0981601. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

4. *People v. Duncan*, 03 CR 2716501. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

5. *People v. Russell*, 00 CR 1175901. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

6. *People v. Lyod*, 03 CR 0483601. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

7. *People v. Matthews*, 09 CR 1856401. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

8. *People v. Pointer*, 08 CR 0121001. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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773-674-2700

Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

9. *People v. Taylor*, 08 CR 2246102. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

10. *People v. Williams*, 10 CR 0349601. Copy supplied.

State's Attorney

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Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

Petitioner Appellant

Pro se

- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

I am not aware of any cases in which certiorari was granted or requested.

- f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If

any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

To the best of my knowledge, the following cases represent a summary of and citations for all of my decisions that were reversed by a reviewing court. It is possible that there are other cases where my rulings and findings have been modified, if not reversed. I have listed the cases I have been able to identify in alphabetical order.

*People v. Andrade*, Docket No. 10 CR 1309401 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2012), *rev'd in part*, 2014 IL App. (1st) 113786-U, 2014 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 363 (Ill. App. Ct. 2014): Mr. Andrade was convicted of four counts of aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and sentenced to probation. A portion of his conviction was reversed pursuant to the intervening decision in *People v. Aguilar*, 2013 IL 112116, 2 N.E.3d 321 (2013), which had found the form of one of the counts charged to be unconstitutional.

*People v. Baines*, Docket No. 05 CR 1551401 (Circuit Court of Cook County, 2008), *rev'd*, 927 N.E.2d 158 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010): Mr. Baines was convicted after a jury trial on charges of armed robbery and attempted first degree murder. The Illinois Appellate Court reversed and remanded for a new trial due to ineffective assistance of counsel, despite finding that the record was replete with efforts by me to ensure that the trial was conducted fairly. Mr. Baines subsequently waived his right to jury trial before me, and I found him not guilty at re-trial.

*People v. Barnes*, Docket No. 07 CR 2286101 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2011), *rev'd*, 2013 IL App. (1st) 120057-U, 2013 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2138 (Ill. App. Ct. 2013): Mr. Barnes appealed an order dismissing his post-conviction petition at the first stage. The appellate court reversed, holding that the Petitioner's allegation that appellate counsel was ineffective was sufficient to express a claim of constitutional deprivation. On remand, the petition advanced to the second stage. Dismissal Order supplied

*People v. Brooks*, Docket No. 91 CR 2114704 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2011), *rev'd*, 012 IL App. (1st) 090104-U, 2012 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 2772 (Ill. App. Ct. 2012): Mr. Brooks appealed the dismissal of his post-conviction petition at the second stage. The appellate court reversed, concluding that Mr. Brooks was entitled to an evidentiary hearing on the issue of whether the trial counsel was ineffective in failing to call a witness.

*People v. DeNeal*, Docket No. 08 CR 1298701 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2009), *rev'd in part*, 997 N.E.2d 1008 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2011): Mr. DeNeal was convicted of possession of a controlled substance following a bench trial and sentenced to two-and-a-half-years imprisonment. Although the appellate court upheld the sentence, it did reverse the imposition of a five-dollar court fee.



*People v. Johnson*, Docket No. 08 CR 1255701 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2009), *rev'd in part*, 997 N.E.2d 1009 (Ill. App. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision), 2011 IL 111817, 959 N.E.2d 1150 (Ill. 2011): I found Mr. Johnson guilty of the lesser included offense of possession of a controlled substance, and I sentenced him to a term in the penitentiary. I imposed several mandatory monetary charges, including a \$200 DNA analysis charge pursuant to the Illinois Uniform Code of Corrections. Mr. Johnson received credit for pre-trial time in custody and, per statute, this time credit was used to offset any fines. The appellate court ruled that the DNA charge was not meant to be punitive and, therefore, was not a fine. The Illinois Supreme Court agreed and held that Mr. Johnson was not entitled to the offset I had awarded him. The conviction and sentence were affirmed in all other respects.

*People v. Long*, Docket No. 10 CR 1902101 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2011), *rev'd in part*, 2013 IL App. (1st) 112703-U, 2013 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1595 (Ill. App. 1st Dist. 2013): Mr. Long was convicted of burglary and possession of burglary tools and was sentenced to eight years on the burglary charge and an extended term sentence of six years on the possession of burglary tools charge. I ordered the sentences to run concurrently for a total of eight years. The appellate court reversed as to Mr. Long's extended term sentence because the possession of burglary tools was not the most serious class of offense. The court reduced the sentence on the possession of burglary tools charge to three years, as well as modifying the fines and fees.

*People v. Minniefield*, Docket No. 03 CR 128401 (Circuit Court of Cook County, 2008), *rev'd*, 988 N.E.2d 1124 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision): I summarily denied Mr. Minniefield's pro se petition for relief under the Post-Conviction Act, alleging trial counsel was ineffective for failing to investigate and present witnesses and failing to request an involuntary manslaughter jury instruction. The appellate court reversed and remanded for second stage proceedings. Dismissal Order supplied.

*People v. Nelson*, Docket No. 87 CR 35301 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2008), *rev'd*, 985 N.E.2d 1080 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2009) (unpublished table decision): Mr. Nelson, who was serving a life sentence for first degree murder, filed multiple motions and petitions, several of which were before me. Mr. Nelson filed a pro se motion for relief from judgment under Section 2-1401 of the Code of Civil Procedure. My sua sponte denial of the motion was vacated by the Illinois Appellate court because the 30-day time period had not elapsed as required under *People v. Laugharn*, 233 Ill. 2nd 318 (2009).

*People v. Roland*, Docket No. 02 CR 2663001 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2008), *rev'd*, No. 990 N.E.2d 931 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision): I summarily denied Mr. Roland's pro se petition for relief under the Post-Conviction Act alleging trial counsel was ineffective for failing to

investigate his psychiatric history. The Illinois Appellate court reversed and remanded for second stage proceedings. Dismissal Order supplied.

*People v. Tagle*, Docket No. 08 CR 1637801 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2012), *rev'd*, 2014 IL. App. (1st) 121613-U, 2014 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1320 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2014): Mr. Tagle pled guilty to murdering his wife, pursuant to a negotiated guilty plea, and was sentenced to 20 years in prison. At Mr. Tagle's request, defense counsel filed a motion to withdraw his guilty plea. I denied the motion. The appellate court vacated, concluding that although counsel had filed the required certificate under Supreme Court Rule 604(d) before proceeding on Mr. Tagle's motion, the certificate did not strictly comply with the requirements of the rule. The case was remanded for further proceedings on Mr. Tagle's motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

*People v. Thurston*, Docket No. 93 CR 2428901 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2008), *rev'd*, 988 N.E.2d 242 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2010) (unpublished table decision): Mr. Thurston appealed an order denying him leave to file a motion to show cause. The appellate court found that the motion should not have been re-characterized as a post-conviction petition, and ordered the denial reversed and remanded the case with instructions.

*People v. Williams*, Docket No. 08 CR 2084901 (Circuit Court of Cook County 2010), *rev'd*, 2014 IL. App. (1st) 093211-U, 2014 Ill. App. Unpub. LEXIS 1013: Mr. Williams was convicted by jury and sentenced to probation on an aggravated use of a weapon charge. The conviction was reversed because the form of the offense for which Mr. William was convicted was subsequently held to be unconstitutional by the Illinois Supreme Court, pursuant to *People v. Aguilar*, 2013 IL 112116, 2 N.E.3d 321 (Ill. 2013).

In addition to the above cases, I was reversed by the Illinois Appellate Court in cases *People v. Garcia*, 922 N.E.2d 495 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2009) and *People v. Easley*, 2012 IL App. (1st) 110023, 983 N.E.2d 69. However, both of those appellate court decisions were later reversed by the Illinois Supreme Court in *People v. Garcia*, 948 N.E.2d 32 (Ill. 2011), and *People v. Easley*, 2014 IL 115581, 7 N.E.3d 667, and the convictions and sentences that I entered were affirmed.

- g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

As a state court trial judge, I typically have not issued written opinions in the course of my trials although I have regularly issued written orders when I denied a post-conviction petition at the first stage. None of these orders has been published, although they are on file with the Clerk's office.

- h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

I have not written or issued any significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues although I routinely rule on Fourth and Fifth Amendment issues in the course of presiding over pre-trial motions, trials and in post-conviction proceedings.

- i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

I have not sat by designation on any federal courts of appeal.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

The Illinois Code of Judicial Conduct and Illinois Supreme Court Rule 63 govern the judicial duties and responsibilities of judges in Illinois. Pursuant to Canon 3C(1) of the Code, a judge is required to disqualify himself or herself in a proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including but not limited to instances where the judge knows that he or she has an economic interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding or has any other more than de minimis interest that could be substantially affected by the proceeding. I have always complied with the requirements. I make determinations on a case-by-case basis.

To the best of my recollection no one has asked me to recuse myself. I have, however, recused myself sua sponte from the following cases:

*People v. Finley and Murphy*, 05 CR 2421201-02: In this drug case the co-defendants had alleged police misconduct/brutality and had obtained disciplinary files from the Chicago Police Department. During an in-camera review of these files, I became aware of the fact that an attorney, who was a personal friend of mine, had filed a complaint against one of the officers. I fully disclosed this information to the prosecutors and counsel for each defendant. I then recused myself and transferred the case to my presiding judge for reassignment.

*People v. Tripplet*, 10 CR 792901: On the day this case was set for litigation, a police officer/witness recognized me from years earlier. We had both volunteered at Muscular Dystrophy Association summer camps. I disclosed the information to all parties, stated that I would not be influenced by the relationship and asked the attorneys whether I should remove myself from the case. The parties asked for time to consider the issue. Sensing some hesitancy from one of the attorneys, I recused myself.

*People v. Moore*, 14 CR 710201: Defendant was accused of committing an Aggravated Battery in open court before a different judge. Many of the eyewitnesses were court personnel including an Assistant State's Attorney who had been assigned to my courtroom for two years. As a result, I recused myself.

**15. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

Aside from judicial office, I have never held public office, nor have I ever run for public office.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

In 2002, I was a field volunteer for Roberto Maldonado's re-election campaign to the Cook County Board of Commissioners. I canvassed, assisted with voter registration and served as a poll watcher.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I never served as a clerk to a judge.

ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have never practiced alone.

iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

1991 – 2003

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Assistant Public Defender

iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I never served as a mediator or arbitrator before my appointment as Associate Judge.

b. Describe:

i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

My legal career involved the representation of indigent individuals in criminal and civil proceedings. My career began on the civil side in the Child Protection Division, representing parents who were alleged to have abused or neglected their children. I also represented parents in Termination of Parental Rights proceedings. I then worked in the Juvenile Justice Division, where I represented children accused of crimes. Thereafter, I worked in the Felony Trial Division representing adults charged with felony offenses.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

My clients were the indigent accused.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

100% of my practice was in litigation. As an assistant public defender, I appeared in court on a daily basis.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
  - 1. federal courts: 0%
  - 2. state courts of record: 100%
  - 3. other courts: 0%
  - 4. administrative agencies: 0%

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
  - 1. civil proceedings: 10%
  - 2. criminal proceedings: 90%

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

During my tenure as an assistant public defender, I participated in approximately 30 jury trials and approximately 150 bench trials to final judgment. I was lead counsel in approximately 15 of the jury trials and second chair counsel in the other 15 jury trials. I served as sole or chief counsel on all of the bench trials.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:
  - 1. jury: 17%
  - 2. non-jury: 83%

- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have never practiced before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of

the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

The following are ten cases that I personally handled as lead counsel. The information requested dates back a minimum of 11 years and, unfortunately, I do not have access to my former files or records relating to my employment with the Cook County Public Defender's Office. This list is compiled based upon memory, limited personal records, and access to the Clerk's computer system.

1. *People v. Lindsey*, 97 CR 1819401 (Circuit Court of Cook County, March 15, 1999), Judge Stanley Sacks.

I represented Mr. Lindsey, who was charged with multiple armed robbery counts. Mr. Lindsey was captured on video entering an auto repair shop and robbing employees and a patron. He was convicted by a jury and sentenced to 35 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections:

Co-Counsel

Thomas Brice (deceased)

State's Attorney

Judge Laura Bertucci (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
555 West Harrison, Room 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60607  
773-325-9003

Michael J. Nolan (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
The Law Office of Michael J. Nolan, P.C.  
7133 West Higgins Avenue  
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773-631-5582

2. *People v. Fields*, 98 CR 517401 (Circuit Court of Cook County, October 18, 1999), Judge Stanley Sacks.

I represented Mr. Fields, who was charged with first degree murder in a gang-related shooting. The 11-year-old sister of the deceased testified at trial and she identified Mr. Fields as the shooter. She was impeached by prior inconsistent statements. Another eyewitness was exposed as a drug addict during cross-examination, and as a result, I was able to obtain a Non-Illinois Pattern Jury Instruction regarding the lack of reliability of testimony of a drug addict. The jury acquitted Mr. Fields on all charges.

Co-Counsel

Thomas Brice (deceased)

State's Attorney

Kathy Hufford  
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3. *People v. Davis*, 99 CR 1746001 (Circuit Court of Cook County, October 22, 1999), Judge Stanley Sacks.

I represented Mr. Davis, who was charged with burglary of a church. Officers responded to an alarm at a church and saw Mr. Davis exiting through a broken window. Proceeds from the church were found in proximity to Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis was convicted by a jury and sentenced by Judge Sacks to ten years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal. *People v. Davis*, 783 N.E.2d 237 (IL App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2000).

Co-Counsel

Robert W. Johnson (formerly Assistant Public Defender)  
Smith, Johnson and Antholt  
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773-485-2267



State's Attorney

Judge Laura Bertucci (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
555 West Harrison, Room 201  
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4. *People v. Cross*, 98 CR 2362701 (Circuit Court of Cook County, March 31, 2000),  
Judge Stanley Sacks.

I represented Mr. Cross. On August 6, 1998, he was arrested for sexually assaulting a young woman at knifepoint. Mr. Cross maintained that the sexual contact was consensual and that he had given the complainant money and drugs in exchange for sex. At the initial jury trial, the complainant testified. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty on aggravated kidnapping counts but was hung on the sexual assault charges. At the second jury trial, the court granted the State's motion to declare complainant unavailable and to proceed by using her earlier testimony. The jury found Mr. Cross guilty of sexual assault counts but not guilty on the aggravated criminal sexual assault charges. He was sentenced to a 60 years extended term sentence. Mr. Cross appealed, and the Illinois Appellate Court affirmed the conviction and sentence. Although I did not represent him in his federal proceedings, Mr. Cross filed a federal habeas petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 2254, which the district court denied. Mr. Cross petitioned the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, which found that the State had failed to demonstrate that it employed good faith efforts to locate the complainant and that the state appellate court unreasonably applied federal law when it concluded that the complainant was unavailable. The United States Supreme Court thereafter reversed the decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. *Handy v. Irving Cross*, 132 S. Ct. 490, (2011).

Co-Counsel

Thomas Brice (deceased)

State's Attorney

Judge Angela Petrone (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
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Michael J. Nolan (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
The Law Office of Michael J. Nolan, P.C.  
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5. *People v. Smith*, 99 CR 11101 (Circuit Court of Cook County, October 1, 2001), Judge Stuart Palmer.

I represented Mr. Smith, who was one of several co-defendants charged with first degree murder. Mr. Smith was tried simultaneously with a co-defendant at a double jury trial. Testimony revealed that he was involved in a verbal altercation with the victim and that a rock was thrown at his car as he drove away. He returned to the scene through an alley and shots were fired killing the victim. Mr. Smith made an inculpatory statement to the police. Mr. Smith was convicted by a jury and sentenced to 28 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal. *People v. Smith*, 343 Ill. App. 3d 1294 (1st Dist. 2003) (unpublished table decision).

Co-Counsel

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State's Attorney

Karen O'Malley  
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Lisa Callahan (deceased)

McCray Judge (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
Swanson, Martin and Bell  
330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 3300  
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6. *People v. Terry*, 02 CR 738701 (Circuit Court of Cook County, July 2002), Judge James Linn.

I represented Mr. Terry, who was charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle. Despite calling a defense witness and requesting a lesser-included jury instruction on

the charge of theft, Mr. Terry was convicted by a jury and sentenced by Judge Linn to five years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Co-Counsel

Rogelio Garcia (formerly Assistant Public Defender)  
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State's Attorney

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312-786-9680

7. *People v. Davis*, 01 CR 0116001 (Circuit Court of Cook County, January 16, 2003), Judge James Linn.

I represented Mr. Davis, who was charged with first degree murder. The State alleged that Mr. Davis felt he had been cheated out of money by the victim and told a friend that he was going to start a fight with the victim and then rob him. A fight ensued, during which Mr. Davis retrieved a firearm from his backpack and shot the victim, killing him. Mr. Davis asserted justifiable self-defense, but was convicted by a jury and sentenced to 27 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal. *People v. Davis*, 936 N.E.2d 1226 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2007) (unpublished table decision).

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8. *People v. Dorbin*, 98 CR 1413803 (Circuit Court of Cook County, December 7, 2001), Judge Bertina Lampkin.

I represented Mr. Dorbin, who was one of multiple co-defendants charged with first degree murder. I filed a motion to quash arrest and suppress evidence, which was granted after a hearing. The court ruled that Mr. Dorbin had been arrested without probable cause. Pursuant to that motion, inculpatory statements made by Mr. Dorbin to the police were suppressed. The State was unsuccessful at the attenuation hearing that followed, and as a result, dismissed all charges.

State's Attorney

Judge Domenica Stephenson (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
2600 South California, Room 3A15  
Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-3160

9. *In Re S.J.*, docket unknown, (Circuit Court of Cook County, March 1998), Judge Stuart Lubin.

I represented S.J., a minor respondent, who was charged with first degree murder in Juvenile Court. During the bench trial, I was able to introduce statements made by the victim as excited utterances. The victim had been comatose for weeks and upon waking blurted out statements that cast doubt on S.J.'s guilt. S.J. was found not guilty at a bench trial before Judge Lubin.

State's Attorney

David Weiner  
Cook County State's Attorney's Office  
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Chicago, Illinois 60608  
773-674-2700

10. *People v. Newbern*, 99 CR 0808501 (Circuit Court of Cook County, May 2001), Judge Stuart Palmer.

I represented Mr. Newbern, who was charged with burglary in the Miles Square Health Center in Chicago. Mr. Newbern allegedly entered the establishment to steal computer equipment. He was accused of planning this burglary with a security guard. The jury convicted Mr. Newbern, and Judge Palmer sentenced him to seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Mr. Newbern appealed. I do not recall the outcome of the appeal, and despite diligent efforts, I have been unable to locate the appellate decision.

Co-Counsel

Robert W. Johnson (formerly Assistant Public Defender)  
Smith, Johnson and Antholt  
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Chicago, Illinois 60602  
773-485-2267

State's Attorney

Lisa Callahan (deceased)

McCray Judge (formerly Assistant State's Attorney)  
Swanson, Martin and Bell  
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18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

Since becoming a judge, I have devoted myself to training other judges on our courts, including teaching seminars to new judges and continuing judicial education courses for members of the bench in Illinois.

As part of my duties as a judge, I have helped Presiding Judge Paul P. Biebel, Jr., to create the Women's Justice Mental Health (WJMH) call. Since its implementation on November 5, 2010, the WJMH has convened on the first and third Friday of each month. The WJMH call provides intensive and long-term support and services to women suffering from trauma and addiction. I oversee a team of doctors and addiction specialists who screen applicants and develop personalized rehabilitation plans. I have presided over this specialty call since its inception.

Additionally, I have volunteered with the Lawyers' Assistance Program (LAP) since 2003. The LAP is a not-for-profit organization that helps Illinois lawyers, judges, law students and their families with alcohol abuse, drug dependency or mental health problems. We try to address problems before they jeopardize careers or clients. The LAP organizes a team of trained volunteers that meet with concerned family and friends to plan and then conduct an intervention in order to encourage recovery.

I have never performed any lobbying activities.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I have no deferred income arrangements. As a state court judge, upon retirement, I will receive payments from the State of Illinois Judges Retirement System.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

I have no plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment if confirmed.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

See attached Financial Disclosure Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

If confirmed, I would not participate in any cases in which I had prior knowledge of the facts based upon my present employment as a state court judge. In addition, my wife and I hold certain investments in accounts that could constitute financial interests that might reasonably be perceived as constituting a conflict. I am not aware of any other associations or interests held by myself or my family that might present a potential conflict of interest.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I would be guided by 28 U.S.C. section 455 and Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any other relevant statutes, ethical canons, and rules. I would take steps to ensure that I was well informed regarding all financial or professional interests that I held, or that another close family member held, that could present a potential conflict or give the appearance that I lacked impartiality regarding any matter before me. I would recuse myself from any matter in which my impartiality could be reasonably questioned.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

As a judge, I am not permitted to practice law, so I have not engaged in any pro-bono representation, although I have participated in the community in other ways. For example, in early 2011, with the help of one Assistant State's Attorney and one Assistant Public Defender, I formed 26th Street Readers. For two school years, our group of approximately 15 lawyers volunteered on a rotating basis. We worked with a group of children and one dedicated teacher on a weekly basis for tutoring. I continue to be involved in a host of groups that serve the disadvantaged, including the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School and Lawyers' Assistance Program. The Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund provides high school scholarship assistance and educational support to Chicago students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Cristo Rey Jesuit High School offers an excellent college preparatory education for children of families of Chicago's southwest side. It is the founding school for the nationwide Cristo Rey network and pioneered the corporate internship program. The Lawyers' Assistance Program is a not-for-profit organization founded to help Illinois lawyers, judges, law students and their families with alcohol abuse, drug dependency or mental

health problems. Services provided include education, information and referral, peer assistance, and intervention.

**26. Selection Process:**

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

On August 31, 2012, I submitted a judicial application to Senator Richard Durbin's judicial selection committee. On October 9, 2012, I interviewed with a sub-group of the committee in Chicago, Illinois. On October 12, 2012, I interviewed with the full committee in Chicago, Illinois. On December 7, 2012, Senator Durbin interviewed me in Chicago, Illinois. On January 14, 2013, I received a telephone call from Senator Durbin's staff informing me that my name was being submitted to the White House. On June 11, 2014, I received a telephone call from Senator Durbin's staff informing me that I would be moving forward. Since that date, I have been in contact with officials from the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. On July 14, 2014, I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office and the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. On August 5, 2014, the President submitted my nomination to the Senate.

- b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.



AFFIDAVIT

I, Jorge L. Alonso, do swear  
that the information provided in this statement is, to the best  
of my knowledge, true and accurate.

8.6.14  
(DATE)

[Signature]  
(NAME)

[Signature] 8/6/14  
(NOTARY)

