



KANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### KANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION EVALUATES CANDIDATES FOR CIRCUIT JUDGE ELECTION -16th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, 1<sup>st</sup> SUBCIRCUIT

The Kane County Bar Association has completed its evaluation of four candidates for the Circuit Judge election in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, 1<sup>st</sup> Subcircuit. The findings of the Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee, reported to the Chief Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, are as follows:

<b><u>Name of Candidate</u></b>	<b><u>Finding</u></b>
Bianca Camargo	Recommended
Jason Kopec	Recommended
Brittany Michelle Pedersen	Not Presently Recommended
Thomas St. Jules	Highly Recommended

### THE JUDICIAL EVALUATION PROCESS

The Bar Association utilizes a twenty-one-member Judicial Evaluation Committee. Members are a diverse group of practicing lawyers within various areas of practice.

The process used by the Committee includes review of questionnaires completed by the candidates, interviews with the candidates, and inquiries of lawyers and judges who have knowledge of the candidates. The Committee then discusses the qualifications of each candidate before voting by secret ballot. Committee members maintain a pledge of confidentiality that facilitates a forum for complete and frank discussion. The criteria for evaluation include the character, legal knowledge and ability, judicial temperament, diligence, litigation experience, and professional responsibility of the candidate.

A "highly recommended" finding requires a 75% vote. A "recommended" finding requires a 60% vote. Anything less than 60% receives a "not presently recommended" finding. The evaluation conducted by the KCBA Judicial Evaluation Committee is a personal interview process. The Illinois State Bar Association conducts a poll, which is an independent survey mailed to ISBA and KCBA members within the 16" Judicial Circuit and those results are released separately.

About the Kane County Bar Association: The oldest bar association in the state of Illinois, the Association is established to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of law, to facilitate and promote the administration of justice, to encourage continuing legal education, to assist in the delivery of legal services to the public, and to cultivate social and professional interrelationships among its members.