

Sheree Henry

I have been a licensed attorney in the State of Illinois since 1994. I am a voice for families in judicial system as a public Guardian and public defender in and out of the courtroom.

I began my career in public service, when I became a Chicago police explorer at the 3rd District Police Station in high school. Our sponsor, Officer Bradley was a very committed to teaching us the importance of serving the community. We learned how to provide assistance to people in need and how the public relied on the police to be a calming influence.

After graduating from high school, I joined the Illinois National Guard and attended Bradley University. I did my basic training during my first summer in College and my AIT training the next summer. I attended military training one weekend a month.

I began my legal career working for the law firm of Ayesha S. Hakeem and Associates. For six months, I negotiated monetary benefits and/ or job reinstatement for my clients. However, my desire to help voiceless children and their families led me to the Cook County Public Guardian's Office. As an assistant public guardian, I worked tirelessly to represent abused and neglected children. I wanted to focus my legal career helping the voiceless.

I am currently, an Assistant Cook County Public Defender. I have litigated felony and misdemeanor cases at branch courts all over Cook County. I handled a felony caseload when I was assigned to 26th and California.

I am currently assigned to the Markham Courthouse where I handle a felony caseload of over 70 cases. I have litigated a number of cases through bench and jury trials. Additionally, I volunteer to represent all the clients who are accepted into the Drug Court, Mental Health Court and Veteran Court Program in the Markham Courthouse. These Specialty Courts teach sobriety, life coping skills and health maintenance tools so that our clients do not reenter the criminal justice system.

I was found qualified or recommended for the associate judge position this summer by all the following bar associations that participated in the judicial screening process:

Asian American Bar Associations of the Greater Chicago Area,
Black Women Lawyer's Association of Greater Chicago,
Chicago Bar Association,
Chicago Council of Lawyers,
Cook County Bar Association,
Decalogue Society of Lawyers,
Hellenic Bar Association,
Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois,
Illinois State Bar Association,
Puerto Rican Bar Association,
Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

I have represented and litigated misdemeanor and felony cases. I have handled all types of charges including, residential burglary, sexual assault, murder and other forcible felonies. I have also worked in courtrooms all over Cook County from 26th and California, to Markham Courthouse and branch courts in the city of Chicago. I have had the opportunity to practice before a number of great judges. The one common factor that all those

judges share is the care and consideration that they have for law and all the people who come before them in court. When the parties leave their courtroom, they know that the Judge heard them, followed the law and the ruling was fair.

I strengthen my community by volunteering at a local food pantry and speaking to teenagers about their interaction with the criminal justice system in schools and churches. I also participate in the 6th District Annual Courthouse Mock Trial Competition. I am a member of the Homewood Veteran's Committee, Democratic Women of South Suburbs. I am also a member of Trinity United Church of Christ, and participate in its Adopt-A-College Student ministry.

My commitment to public service along with the two decades of legal experience will make me an excellent judge. Through my work in and out of the courtroom, I have seen how much the public relies on the judicial system to be the voice of reason

I am running because the Justice system should work for all people and not just a chosen few. I believe in justice through fairness and TLC – Toughness, Love and Compassion

Every case is important, and each person needs to know that the Judge is listening to him or her and that they will receive a fair trial.

In my courtroom, I will treat all people with fairness, respect and compassion. Justice can only come through fairness and **TLC - Toughness, Love and Compassion**.