



DEIDRE BAUMANN – CANDIDATE FOR JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, SEVENTH JUDICIAL SUBCIRCUIT

I am the first lawyer in my family but knew from an early age that I wanted to be a lawyer. I wanted a career where I could help people, where I would be challenged every day, where I could use my intellect, where I could make a difference in the world. Over the past thirty-one years, I have successfully achieved these goals, but now want to continue serving my calling as a judge. As a civil litigator concentrating in the area of employment discrimination, civil rights, and personal injury, I have represented hundreds of people throughout Cook County. I have practiced in federal court and in state court, in almost every division, and in every municipal courthouse throughout Cook County. I have conducted over fifty trials, primarily juries, and have collectively received significant compensation for my clients. I have also done dozens of appeals before the Illinois Appellate Courts and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals and have appeared before the Illinois Supreme Court.

As an attorney, it has been my duty to represent those who are underrepresented and underserved, and I have done this. I was the first attorney to file a complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County regarding the Burr Oak cemetery tragedy and I was responsible for the initial appointment of a receiver. Even after the cemetery filed for bankruptcy and many of the attorneys involved abandoned their clients, I continued to fight for the rights of hundreds of people affected by that tragedy. Recently, I successfully fought the plans of the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District to use Amundsen Park Fieldhouse as a migrant shelter. As a result of my work, hundreds of citizens on the West Side could continue to enjoy the public services upon which they rely and to which they are entitled.

It has also been a privilege to have served in a variety of leadership positions within the legal community. I have served as President of the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, President of the North Suburban Bar Association, long-time Chair of the Suburban Bar Coalition, and Chair of the ISBA's Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee and General Practice Solo and Small Firm Section Council. I currently serve as Chair of the ISBA's Federal Civil Practice Section Council, Secretary of LAGBAC, Chicago's LGBTQ+ Bar Association, Secretary of the Lawyers Club of Chicago and serve on the Decalogue Foundation Board. In addition, for several years, I served as an instructor for the CBA's Restorative Justice Program and served on the CBA's Alliance for Women Executive Board and on the Executive Board of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

In 2013, I was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court Access to Justice, Procedures Subcommittee, on which I still serve. Over the years, I have lectured to law students at Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, and John Marshall Law School and have written several scholarly articles which were published in ITLA's Law Journal. I have also given several continuing legal education seminars for the Decalogue Society, CBA, and ISBA and participated in numerous diversity and inclusion programs. I have been recognized as a Super Lawyer in 2015, 2021-2023.

Finally, I am an active member of my community. I am a long-time officer and board member of the Lane Tech Alumni Association, Lane Tech being my High School Alma Mater, and since 2004, I have served as President of the Chicago/Cook County 4-H Foundation, an organization dedicated to providing scholarships for deserving 4-H youth who are attending a college or university.