

Who is Mariyana Spyropoulos?

Mariyana Spyropoulos gravitates to politics of the possible. The daughter of working-class immigrants, she is currently serving her third term as commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, where she was first elected in 2010. As an MWRD commissioner, Spyropoulos has championed fiscal responsibility, transparency, and environmentally progressive policies for the agency.

Raised on Chicago's South Side, Spyropoulos served as board president from 2015 to 2019. In this role, she embraced green infrastructure and oversaw the disinfection of Chicago's waterways--a project that directly benefited the region and created jobs. While leading the agency, she maintained the MWRD's AAA bond rating. She also was chair of finance and sits on the pension board. Spyropoulos pushed for transparency by introducing an inspector general, broadcasting board meetings, and developing an app for residents to report water pollution.

Her hard work was recognized in 2017 when she received the Illinois Water Environment Association Public Official Award and again in 2021 when she received the Public Service Award from the Water Environment Federation. An early advocate of green infrastructure, Spyropoulos supports Chicago's Space to Grow program, which transforms schoolyards into green functional spaces--and took an active role in expanding the program to 125 of Cook County's municipalities. She also pushed for the MWRD to sign on to the Paris Climate Accord.

Given her experience leading a countywide agency with 2,000 employees and a \$1 billion budget, Spyropoulos is running for Cook County Circuit Court Clerk because she knows what it takes to manage a large office. It is this experience and knowledge as an attorney that she will bring to the nation's largest unified court system which many users describe as "dysfunctional." She wants to improve the use of technology in the office, bring the courts to the communities to increase access to justice, and make the office more transparent and ethical.

A Spyropoulos administration will Fight corruption, Stop pay-to-play, Digitize All Court Files, Make the Court System More Efficient, Make the Court System more accessible and less intimidating for all residents, and Save Taxpayers Money.

An attorney for 25 years, Spyropoulos has a varied legal career. She was a prosecutor with the Cook County State's Attorney's office and a defense attorney. A product of Chicago Public Schools, Spyropoulos earned her law degree at UIC Law and her MBA from Loyola University Chicago. Spyropoulos is a member of the Chicago Sierra Club, Hellenic Bar Association, Women's Bar Association, and Sankofa House Board.

Endorsement by Northwest Side Progressive Elected Officials

On Monday, March 4th, Congresswoman Delia Ramirez and a coalition of Northwest Side Progressive Elected Officials held a press conference announcing their endorsement of Spyropoulos. The coalition clarified that Mariyana is the right candidate to lead this office.

Elected officials endorsing Mariyana include State Senator Omar Aquino (2nd Senate District), State Representatives Will Guzzardi (39th House District) and Lilian Jimenez (4th House District), Cook County Commissioner Anthony Quezada (8th District), Alderpersons Carlos Rosa (35th Ward), Jessie Fuentes (26th Ward), Rossana Rodriguez (33rd Ward), and Ruth Cruz (30th Ward).

This is the same coalition that mobilized the grassroots support that helped deliver Congresswoman Ramirez's historic win in the 2022 Democratic primary and which helped force a runoff in the 2023 mayoral contest. "Congresswoman Ramirez and this coalition of Northwest Side Progressive Elected Officials have proven that their collaboration can help candidates win at all levels across our county. I'm honored to work with them to win this election," said Commissioner Spyropoulos.

"I am clear that a change in the leadership of the Clerk of the Circuit Court is desperately needed and Mariyana Spyropoulos is the right person for the job," said Congresswoman Ramirez. Alderperson Rodriguez added: "The Clerk of the Circuit Court has a critical role in ensuring fair and equitable access to justice in the administration of our courts. We need executive leadership in this office that understands and takes this responsibility seriously."

"Through my work in the state legislature, I know how important it is to have good partners in county government," said State Representative Guzzardi. "Mariyana has been a trusted partner to many of us for over a decade and her leadership is sorely needed to restore the public's trust."