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BWLA 2026 Primary Election Judicial Voter's Guide

Primary Election Day, Tuesday, March 17, 2026

You may use this voter's guide to assist with voting on election day.

NR Rating = Not Recommended. The candidate lacks basic qualifications.

NR¹ Rating = Not Evaluated. Candidates who do not participate in the judicial evaluation process are automatically rated Not Recommended.

R Rating = The candidate is qualified for judicial office.

All of the people listed below are candidates in the 2026 Primary Election. The persons with a (D) are Democratic candidates and persons with a (*) asterisks following their names are Republican candidates.

Illinois Appellate Court, 1st District

(Vacancy of Hoffman)

Judith C. Rice (D) R

Judge, Cook County Judicial Circuit

(Vacancy of Burke)

Steven Q. McKenzie (D) R

Judge, Cook County Judicial Circuit

(Vacancy of Cobbs)

Linda Sackey (D) R

Luz Maria Toledo (D) R

Judge, Cook County Judicial Circuit

(Vacancy of Coghlan)

Michael Cabonargi (D) R

Ashonta C. Rice (D) R

Judge, Cook County Judicial Circuit

(Vacancy of Hooks)

Ava George Stewart (D) R

Judge, Cook County Judicial Circuit

(Vacancy of Karkula)

D'Anthony "Tony" Thedford (D) R

Judge, 1st Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Balanoff)

Natalie L. Howse (D) NR¹

Radiance Ward (D) R

Judge, 1st Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Walker)

Tiffany Brooks (D) NR¹

Ginger Odom (D) R

Ashley Greer Shambley (D) R

Judge, 3rd Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Murphy)

John Carroll (D) R

Judge, 3rd Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Sherlock)

Martin Douglas Reggi (D) R

Rachel Marrello (D) R

Judge, 5th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Ross)

Stephanie S. Kelly (D) R

Judge, 8th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Gamrath)

Kathleen Cunniff Ori (D) R

Elizabeth Christina Dibler (D) R

Garson Fischer (D) NR

Judge, 8th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Mikva)

Dan Balanoff (D) R

Lester Finkle (D) R

Katherine Carole Morrison (D) R

Judge, 11th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of McLean Meyerson)

John R. Carrozza (D) R

Jarrett Knox (D) R

Judge, 11th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Roberts)

Kim Przekota (D) R

Judge, 13th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of Curry, Jr.)

Robert "Bob" Groebner (D) R

Judge, 13th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of M. Kelley)

Brittany Michelle Pedersen (D) R

Judge, 13th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of T. Kelley)

William F. Kelley (D) R

Judge, 13th Cook County Subcircuit

(Vacancy of O'Malley)

Dan Naranjo (D) R

Judge, 16th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Baird)

Julian Sanchez Crozier (D) R

Judge, 16th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Mendoza)

Jessica Karina Velez (D) R

Judge, 17th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Brooks)

Natalia Moore (D) NR¹

Meridith Hammer (D) R

Judge, 17th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Carroll)

Bianca B. Brown (D) R

Amari Dawson (D) NR¹André Thapedi (D) NR¹**Judge, 18th Cook County Subcircuit**

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Chrones)

Juan Ponce de Leon (D) R

Judge, 18th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Andreou)

Sam Bae (D) R

Judge, 19th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Fairman)

Sara McGann (D) R

Judge, 19th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Kane)

Dave Condron (D) R

John Harkins (D) NR

Monica Somerville (D) R

Judge, 20th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Haracz)

Michael J. Zink (D) R

Judge, 20th Cook County Subcircuit

(Converted from Associate Judgeship of Miller)

Jon Stromsta (D) R

Belle Katubig (D) R