

# HONORABLE JOHN J. CURRY (Ret.) Chicago, IL



Judge John J. Curry, Jr. (Ret.) served as a highly regarded Circuit Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, where he presided over the trial (both bench and jury) and disposition of hundreds of business, commercial, and administrative law cases in the court's Law Division. Prior to his decade plus service as a circuit judge, Judge Curry was a successful civil trial attorney for national law firms, concentrating in business, commercial, administrative, banking, probate, negligence, personal injury, and general civil law, with 30 years' experience. While in practice, Judge Curry received an "AV" designation from Martindale Hubbell, the highest peer rating given for professional skills and ethics, and designation as a

Leading Lawyer in Chicago from the Leading Lawyers Network. Altogether, Judge Curry has extensive experience in settling hundreds of business, commercial, negligence, and civil cases.

Judge Curry now serves as a neutral for mediation and arbitration, and is experienced in virtual and hybrid mediations. He concentrates his mediation and arbitration practice on the resolution of complex business, commercial, and civil matters. Judge Curry's extensive experience as a jurist and litigator instill confidence during the mediation process, as he combines the evaluative and facilitative mediation styles to help resolve civil disputes

#### Representative Matters:

- Contract and Commercial Disputes
- Bank and Financial Institutions/Lender Liability
- Creditor's Rights
- Business Fraud/ Tortious Interference/Business Torts
- Fiduciary Duty
- Business Separation
- Insurance Coverage
- Shareholder/Member Disputes
- Director Liability
- Employment
- Implied Contract/Equity Claims

- Franchising
- Health Care
- Construction
- Negligence/Personal Injury
- Product Liability
- Professional Negligence
- Estate, Probate, Trust Disputes
- Commercial Real Estate/ Leasing
- Defamation
- Qui Tam
- Class Action
- Discovery Disputes

## Professional Experience

Resolute Systems, LLC 2025 – present

Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, IL 2014 – 2025

Law Division, Commercial Section 2022 – 2025

Law Division, Tax and Miscellaneous Remedies Section 2020-2021

Chancery Division, Mortgage Foreclosure and Mechanics Lien Section 2017 - 2020

Municipal Division 2014 – 2017

Polsinelli Shareholder 2006 – 2014

Nasharr & Shea Partner 2004 – 2006

Foran, Nasharr & O'Toole Of Counsel 1998 – 2004

Special Assistant Attorney General Illinois Attorney General 1995 – 1998

Katten Muchin Rosenman Associate 1987 – 1989

United States Department of Justice Trial Attorney 1983 – 1997 Attorney Attorney General Illinois Attorney General 1981 – 1983

## **Professional Affiliations**

Illinois State Bar Association, Civil Practice Section Chicago Bar Association, Law Museum Committee, Commercial Litigation Committee, Civil Practice Committee, Civil Rights Committee Illinois Judges Association

#### Education

Vanderbilt University School of Law Juris Doctor, 1978

Northwestern University B.A., Political Science and History, 1975

### Notable Decisions Affirmed by Reviewing Courts

Marathon Petroleum Company LP v. Cook County Department of Revenue, 2024 IL 129562 (circuit court affirmed, reversing appellate court decision)

540 North Lake Shore Drive Condominium Ass'n v. MCZ Development Corp., 2025 IL App (1st) 230733

A&A Investments, Inc. v. A.S.A.P. Logistics, Ltd., 2025 IL App (1st) 232289-U

<u>People ex rel. Lindblom v. Best Buy Stores, L.P.</u>, 2024 IL App (1<sup>st</sup>) 240379-U (affirmed in part, reversal in part criticized as inconsistent)

DX3 BP Associates v Shin, 2024 IL App (1st) 240899-U

Soni v. Department of Employment Security, 2024 IL App (1st) 220137

Shrock v. Meier, 2024 IL App (1st) 230069

Ybarra v. Centrust Bank, N.A., 2024 IL App (1st) 232072-U

Buchanan Energy (N) LLC v. County of Cook, 2024 IL App (1st) 220056

Lenz v. Advocate Health & Hospitals Corp., 2023 IL App (1st) 230740

<u>Left Turn Investments, LLC v. Three Four Global Investments, LLC, 2023 IL App (1st) 220764-U</u>

Wendella Sightseeing Co. v. City of Chicago, 2023 IL App (1st) 211371

Hutton v. Illinois Department of Employment Security, 2023 IL App (1st) 211475-U

Eco Brite Linens LLC v. City of Chicago, 2023 IL App (1st) 210665

First Bank of Highland Park v. Heiman, 2022 IL App (1st) 192270-U

Old Second National Bank, N.A. v. Karolewicz, 2022 IL App (1st) 192091

Bara Chicago, LLC v. The Big Cheese Wrigleyville, LLC, 2022 IL App (1st) 201314-U

People v Thomas, 2021 IL App (1st) 190332-U

RCB Equities #3, LLC v. Jakubow, 2021 IL App (1st) 200256-U

U.S. Bank Nat'l Ass'n v. Gagua, 2020 IL App (1st) 190454

HSBC Bank USA National Ass'n v. Adams, 2019 IL App (1st) 190208-U

Wilmington Savings Fund Society v. Ogbonna, 2019 IL App (1st) 181559-U

Deutsche Bank Nat'l Trust Co. v. Ravitz, 2019 IL App (1st) 181030-U

Deutsche Bank Nat'l Trust Co. v. Washington, 2018 IL App (1st) 173045-U

### Licenses

**United States Supreme Court** 

United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Trial Bar

United States District Court, Northern District of Indiana

United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

State of Illinois

District of Columbia (1986 – 2014)

#### Presentations and Teaching

Circuit Court of Cook County, New Judge Mentor Program, Chicago 2023-2024

Judge, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Third Trial Institute, Chicago September 2023

"Case Preparation", Chicago-Kent College of Law, Federalist Society, Chicago March 2022

Judge, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Trial Institute, Chicago September 2019

"Practice in Cook County Mortgage Foreclosure", Panelist, Chicago Bar Association, Chicago 2019

"Civil Case Settlement Case Study: Vandenberg", Civil Justice Reform Group, September 2017

"Piercing the Corporate Veil", Polsinelli Business Law Institute, Chicago, June 2013

"Legal Developments in Litigation in the Recession", Chicago Bar Association CLE, Chicago, 2009

"Impact of the 2008 Recession on Litigation", Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, 2008

"TROs and Restrictive Covenant Cases", Panelist, DuPage County Bar Association, Wheaton, IL, March 1993

### Other Notable Experience

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, Pro Bono Attorney, 2014

Chair Arbitrator, Cook County Mandatory Arbitration Program, 1993-1998

Panel Attorney, American Bar Association Indo-Chinese Refugee Legal Assistance Program, 1979-1981