

Court Information Release



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District Judge Matthew Kennelly Sworn in as President of the Chicago Chapter of Federal Bar Association

CHICAGO, Ill.- On September 24, 2015, District Judge Matthew Kennelly was sworn in as President of the Chicago Federal Bar Association.

The Federal Bar Association (FBA) represents the federal legal profession and is comprised of more than 16,000 federal lawyers, including 1,200 federal judges, who work together to promote the sound administration of justice and integrity, quality and independence of the judiciary. The Chicago Chapter has more than 550 members and offers programs and events for judges and attorneys engaged in federal practice.

“Judge Kennelly’s election as President of the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is recognition of his distinguished career as an attorney and district judge and his commitment to the overall improvement of bench and bar relations,” said Chief Judge Rubén Castillo.

“I am honored to serve as President of the Chicago Chapter of Federal Bar Association. I look forward to working with the Chapter’s dedicated membership to serve the needs of federal practitioners with the ultimate aim of strengthening the federal legal system,” said Judge Kennelly.

Judge Kennelly has ambitious plans for the Chicago Chapter. He hopes to grow the Chicago Chapter by attracting more government lawyers and younger lawyers. “The successful bar associations are the ones that are able to keep generating new members, particularly younger members,” said Judge Kennelly.

Judge Kennelly received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his law degree from Harvard Law School. He served as law clerk to Judge Prentice Marshall in the Northern District of Illinois and worked as an attorney in private law practice until January 26, 1999, when then-President Bill Clinton nominated Kennelly to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on April 15, 1999, and received his commission on April 22, 1999.

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