

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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FEDERAL COURT GOING OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY

CHICAGO – Today Chief Judge Rubén Castillo announced that the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois has developed a Judicial Speakers Bureau available for speaking engagements throughout the District. The Judicial Speakers Bureau is part of the Court's outreach program to educate and explain the courts to the community. Chief Judge Castillo specifically indicated:

I am pleased that as we reach the one year anniversary as my service as Chief Judge that our Court has formalized its already strong record of community outreach to our large federal district. Each week, our judges average two or three community speaking engagements. During my first year as Chief Judge, I alone have given more than 50 outreach presentations throughout our district and in the entire country. I have visited courthouses in Winnebago and McHenry counties, and will today speak at a gathering of the Lake County Bar Association.

Our judges have also hosted many students, outside groups, and foreign officials and judges at the Dirksen Courthouse over the past few years.

The program will consist of a Federal Judge visiting or agreeing to host a school or a community-based civic organization to discuss how the courts are a vital part of our community. It is expected that this outreach effort will also assist the Court's effort to diversify its jury venire. For additional information, please visit the Community Outreach Program section of the Court's website at www.ilnd.uscourts.gov/community-outreach.

With its twenty-two authorized district judgeships, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois is the third largest district court in the nation. The Court's current caseload includes more than 12,000 new civil cases filed and more than 900 new felony criminal defendants annually.

The Northern District of Illinois stretches across 18 counties from the southernmost point in LaSalle County to the westernmost point in Jo Davies County at the Iowa border, an area of nearly 10,100 square miles, with a total population of nearly 9.3 million persons. These counties are divided into the Eastern and Western Divisions of the Northern District of Illinois with courthouses in Chicago and Rockford.

More information about the Northern District of Illinois is available at their website:
www.ilnd.uscourts.gov.

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