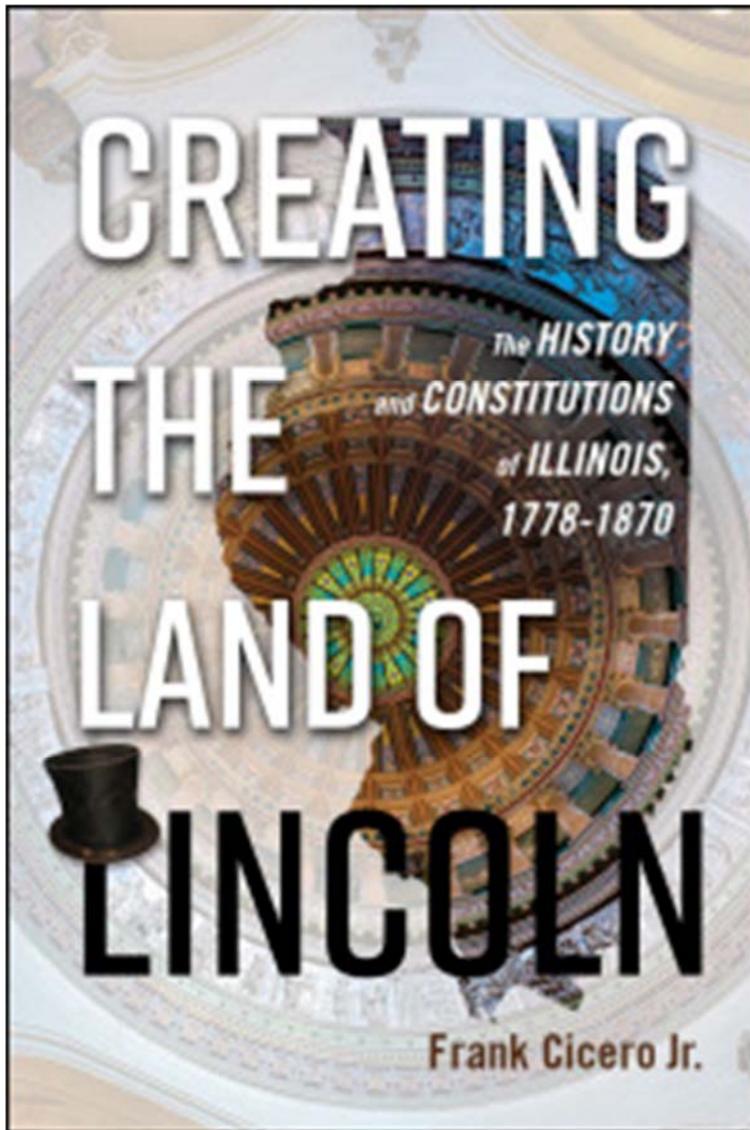


**The Northern District of Illinois Court History Museum
Proudly Presents Its Inaugural Lecture
Meet the Author, Frank Cicero, Jr.
May 17, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.
Dirksen U.S. Courthouse
219 S. Dearborn St., 21st Floor
Chicago, IL 60647**



Creating the Land of Lincoln: The History and Constitutions of Illinois, 1778-1870 How three constitutions built the modern Prairie State

In its early days, Illinois seemed destined to extend the American South. Its population of transplants lived an upland southern culture and in some cases owned slaves. Yet the nineteenth century and three constitutions recast Illinois as a crucible of northern strength and American progress.

Frank Cicero Jr. provides an appealing new history of Illinois as expressed by the state's constitutions – and in particular focused on the key role of our first federal judge, Nathaniel Pope, in moving the boundaries of Illinois to capture the area that became Chicago. Cicero concludes with the 1870 constitution, revealing how its dialogues and resolutions set the state on the modern course that still endures today, and gave the nation Abraham Lincoln as its president at a key historical moment.

Frank Cicero Jr. is a senior partner at Kirkland and Ellis LLP and served as a delegate for Illinois's Sixth Constitutional Convention. He is the author of *Relative Strangers: Italian Protestants in the Catholic World*.

Reception to follow