

## Court Information Release



**United States District Court**  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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the Northern District of Illinois  
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### **District Court for the Northern District of Illinois Hosts Seminar Aimed at Creating Representative Juries**

Chicago, Ill.- On February 23, 2017, the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois hosted the State and Federal Jury Representation Seminar for judges, clerks of court, law clerks, court administrators, jury administrators and jury coordinators from federal and state courts throughout Illinois.

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss the desirability of diverse juries for decision-making and to identify methods to achieve representative juries. The seminar included panels on Race and Jury Selection, Techniques and Procedures for Increasing Citizen Participation in the Jury System, Challenges to Jury Diversity, Representative Deliberation, Achieving Diversity on the Jury, Obstacles to Representative Deliberation, and Practical Issues for Judges.

“We are excited to host this seminar and create a forum we hope will result in courts taking concrete action to increase citizen participation in our jury system and to create more representative juries. Ensuring that juries reflect our district’s ethnic and racial diversity has been and will continue to be a key priority for our court,” said Chief Judge Rubén Castillo.

Panelists included the following individuals:

Professor Jeffrey B. Abramson, University of Texas at Austin School of Law  
Hon. Walter D. Braud, Chief Judge, 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit  
Thomas G. Bruton, Clerk of Court, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois  
Hon. Rubén Castillo, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois  
Hon. Sharon Johnson Coleman, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois  
Professor Shari Seidman Diamond, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law  
Hon. Timothy C. Evans, Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County  
Paula Hannaford-Agor, Director, Center for Jury Studies, National Center for State Courts

Hon. Arthur F. Hill, Circuit Court of Cook County  
Hon. William H. Hooks, Circuit Court of Cook County  
Hon. Matthew F. Kennelly, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois  
Hon. Stephen A. Kouri, 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Jury Representation Seminar Committee  
Hon. Joseph G. McGraw, Chief Judge, 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit; Chair, Conference of Chief Circuit Judges  
Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois  
Professor Destiny Peery, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law  
Todd A. Schroeder, Assistant Director, Court Services Division, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts  
Hon. Michael P. Toomin, Circuit Court of Cook County

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Above photo provided by Illinois Supreme Court





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