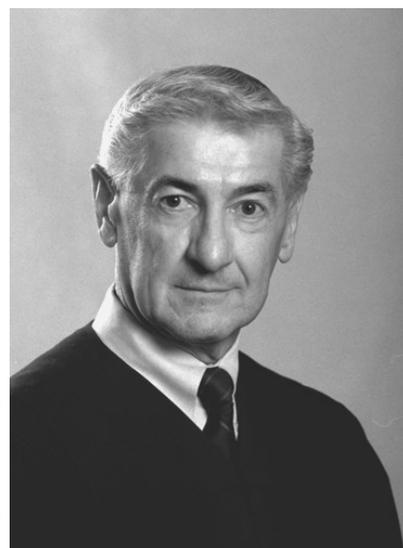


# Reflections from the Bench at the Court at the Heart of America:

## Judicial Interview Series

As the court celebrates its 200th anniversary, Judge Charles P. Kocoras, who has served on the court for nearly 40 years and as the court's Chief Judge from 2002 to 2006, will reflect on his life and career. The interview will be conducted by his son John Kocoras, First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.



Judge Kocoras has presided over many newsworthy cases including the sentencing of Beanie Babies founder, Ty Warner; the criminal jury trial of Cook County Circuit Judge John Murphy; and the Multi-District Litigation series of cases styled: In re Brand Name Prescription Drug Antitrust Litigation, in which retail drug stores across the U.S. were plaintiffs and pharmaceutical companies were defendants.

Before his appointment to the court, Judge Kocoras was a partner in the law firm of Stone McGuire Benjamin and Kocoras, where he concentrated his practice in criminal defense. Before that, Judge Kocoras served as Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission, a position which followed seven years of service as an Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago.

As Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission, Judge Kocoras and four other commissioners were responsible for the regulation of both privately-owned utilities doing business in Illinois and intra-state motor carriers. As an Assistant United States Attorney, Judge Kocoras was personally involved in the prosecution of over two hundred criminal cases, with approximately twenty-five of those cases being tried to the court or jury. He also served in various supervisory positions including First Assistant United States Attorney to two United States Attorneys.

Judge Kocoras, the son of Greek immigrants, grew up speaking Greek in the home. He earned his undergraduate degree from DePaul University in 1961. He served in the Illinois Army National Guard from 1961-1967. Judge Kocoras attended night classes at DePaul University College of Law from 1965 to 1969 and graduated as valedictorian.

**September 19, 2019**  
**3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**  
Reception to follow

RSVP requested, but not required, to  
ILND\_RSVP@ilnd.uscourts.gov

**Dirksen U.S. Courthouse**  
**Ceremonial Courtroom 2525**  
**219 S. Dearborn St.**  
**Chicago, Illinois**

