Voting for Judges

### **The State of Illinois is divided into 22 judicial circuits of which Cook County encompasses the entire First Judicial District. Each circuit is a unified court system in which all trial courts are consolidated under a chief judge. The Circuit Court of Cook County is not only the largest of the 22 circuits in Illinois, it is also one of the largest unified court systems in the world..**

### **Eleven circuit court judges are elected on a countywide basis. Cook County is divided into 15 sub-circuits from which judges are also elected.**

### **In Illinois we choose between candidates who have met certain legal requirements to serve as judges. The candidate runs for a designated position and a specific term of office. The term depends on the type of court involved (Supreme, Appellate, Circuit or Sub-circuit). Every 6 to 10 years we vote again to decide if our elected judges should be retained. We also vote for judges to fill vacancies of judges who are no longer running.**

### **In the March 20 election voters will be closing candidates for the November ballot to fill vacancies for Cook County Circuit and Sub-circuit positions.**