

## McGuire announces re-election candidacy in 2012

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**Joliet, Ill., Aug 15, 2011** - Pamela J. McGuire announced her candidacy today for Will County Circuit Clerk. McGuire emphasized her fifteen-year record of accomplishments, strong leadership, fiscal accountability with efficient and effective service to the community.

"I look forward to the opportunity to inform the citizens of Will County of the progress the Circuit Clerk's office has made during the last four years as well as share my vision for the future, proving why I am the best person for this job", said McGuire.

A long standing advocate for the need to share and exchange key data between our entire justice system partners and law enforcement in efforts to increase accuracy, efficiency and achieve economical benefits, Pam played an instrumental role in the formation of Will County's first Justice Integration Committee.

"I recognize the pressing need for data sharing between key users," McGuire said. "With our county growing so rapidly, continuity in the implementation of the integrated justice system is critical. In plain language, she said, our court system and law enforcement agencies need to be able to exchange vital information immediately. This information is necessary for the safety of the officers on the street, judges in the courtroom and all citizens who interact with the court system."

Protecting Illinois and Will County citizens remains a key focus of the Circuit Clerk. Pam's office has been able to provide a mechanism for victims of domestic violence to electronically fill out and file petitions for orders of protection from the safety of a shelter. The judge is able to create the order from the petition and provide law enforcement with a legible order to enforce. McGuire is a strong advocate for families. As the Circuit Clerk, Pam has returned over \$500,000 in unclaimed child support, ensuring these funds are returned to their rightful owners – the families who need them.

In an effort to alleviate the financial strain that our local government is facing as a result of reduced revenues without burdening the taxpayers, the Circuit Clerk's office turned to unpaid revenue. Through her collection efforts, beginning mid 2007, over \$10,000,000 in unpaid fines and court costs from scofflaws have been collected and distributed to local municipalities, county and state government.

Increased accessibility for citizens remains one of Pam's priorities for her office. Recently, Pam implemented the ability to review your court case information from your computer or handheld device through the Circuit Clerk's website. Additionally, you can now request regular or certified copies of documents from the website, saving a telephone call or a trip to the Clerk's Circuit office and thus valuable time. We are presently working toward the ability to accept debit/credit card payment

options at most of our branch traffic courts. This option is currently available at all permanent Circuit Clerk office locations.

Our E-Citations (traffic tickets), pilot program is currently being deployed to many of the local municipalities. This initiative enables the officer to electronically capture citation data which can be sent to their records management systems as well as the court's case management system. This citation information is faster, more accurate and legible. Upon Supreme Court approval, we will expand the ability to electronically file ("e-file") civil cases allowing the filer to simultaneously view related court documents. The Clerk's office presently accepts Arbitration and Law cases.

These are just a few examples of changes implemented under McGuire to shorten waiting times and make the Circuit Clerk's office more user-friendly. Please take time to view some of the features and information on the Clerk's website at [www.willcountycircuitcourt.com](http://www.willcountycircuitcourt.com).

"As justifiably proud as we all are of the tremendous growth of Will County, it carries with it inevitable growing pains and the daily challenge of judicial case loads that grow faster than revenues. I have a proven record of running an efficient and impartial office."

As an acknowledged leader in implementing innovative information technology, McGuire served as President of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks (IACC) in 2003-2004 and continues to serve on the Association's Legislative Committee. McGuire also currently serves on the State of Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS) Implementation Board, is the Co-Chair of the Outreach Committee for IJIS and an Officer of the Tri-Rivers Police Training Board. McGuire, a cancer survivor, was widowed in 1995, remarried to husband Pat and has five children: Nikkol, Justin, Heather, Erin and Matt as well as two grandchildren, Taylor and Cole.

"We need to face the people every four years and be able to say what we have accomplished and what we will accomplish in the future. My record shows I don't just talk, I perform for the people of Will County. I would be honored if you would join me for a campaign kick-off rally, October 26, 2011 at The Department in downtown Joliet from 5-7 p.m." More information can be found at [www.pamelajmcguire.com](http://www.pamelajmcguire.com).