**THE JUDICIAL BRANCH IN McHENRY COUNTY**

*The Judicial Branch in McHenry County* is a presentation designed by the Public Relations Committee of the Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois for use in the Community by Judges of the Circuit. The Circuit sits in McHenry County, Illinois, and hears cases in the Cities of Woodstock and McHenry, Illinois. This presentation is offered as a public service to better acquaint the community served by the Circuit, with the operations of the Circuit. Through this presentation, no particular case can be discussed. As well, no Judge can provide legal advice to any person.

**Outline**

I. The Constitutions.

1. United States of America.
2. State of Illinois.

II. The Three Branches of Government.

1. Legislative.
2. Executive.
3. Judicial.

III. The Federal Court System.

1. District Court (the trial court) (Northern District of Illinois).
2. Court of Appeals (the appellate court *of right*) (7th Circuit).
3. Supreme Court (*the supreme* court).

IV. The State Court System.

A. Circuit Court (the trial court) (22nd Judicial Circuit).

B. Appellate Court (the appellate court *of right*) (2nd District).

C. Supreme Court (the *supreme* court).

V. The 22nd Judicial Circuit.

1. McHenry County
   1. 8 Circuit Judges + 11 Associate Judges.
   2. Most cases are heard in Woodstock.
2. Chief Judge.
   1. Civil Division / Presiding Judge.
   2. Criminal Division / Presiding Judge.
   3. Family Division / Presiding Judge.

VI. The McHenry County Government Center.

1. Courtrooms.
2. Conference Rooms.
3. Waiting Rooms.
4. Holding Cells.
5. Offices.
6. Jail.

VII. Types of cases.

1. Civil.
2. Criminal.
3. Family.

VIII. Participants.

* 1. Parties.
  2. Judge.
  3. Court Security Officer (Bailiff).
  4. Clerk.
  5. Attorneys.
  6. Others.
     1. Proceedings.

1. Filing.
2. Initial Hearings.
3. Trial.
4. Enforcement.
   * 1. Conclusion and Referral to Resources.

Supreme Court of the United States: [www.supremecourt.gov](http://www.supremecourt.gov).

Supreme Court of Illinois: [www.state.il.us/court](http://www.state.il.us/court).

Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit: [www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/courtadmin](http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/courtadmin).

Library of Congress: http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php.

Illinois General Assembly: www.ilga.gov.

McHenry County Bar Association: [www.mchenrycountybarassoc.org](http://www.mchenrycountybarassoc.org).

Illinois State Bar Association: [www.isba.org](http://www.isba.org).

Law Library of the Circuit: 2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, Illinois.

Self-Help Desk of the Circuit: 2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, Illinois.

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