

## **Garrett backs Levitt**

I enthusiastically endorse Mark Levitt for Circuit Court Judge.

He has the courtroom experience and judicial temperament to apply the law fairly, consistently and correctly, with reason, intelligence and compassion. Mark has dedicated his 20-year legal career to public service. His excellence as a trial attorney earned him the highest rating to be a judge from the Lake County Bar Association. Outside of work, he is committed to our community at every level, volunteering in schools, youth sports groups, and service organizations such as Rotary and Keshet.

With Mark on the bench, we can ensure a fresh perspective, and that the needs of the citizens and our community will be paramount. Join me in voting for Mark Levitt, the superior candidate for Circuit Court Judge.

– *Susan Garrett, state senator, 29th District*

---

## **Levitt brings right temperament**

I hope, in the few words I have here, I can convey to my family, friends and neighbors in Lake County how important it is to vote for Mark Levitt for Circuit Court Judge.

In this election, we have a great opportunity to elect someone as a judge who, every day, displays the qualities that make a great judge. Mark Levitt is an intelligent and highly respected attorney who chose a career path not based on the money he would earn, but on service he could offer. He has been a public defender for 20 years, and has handled very difficult cases (difficult in their legal complexities, and difficult emotionally) because Mark is committed to defending the American justice system. Mark will bring that focus on upholding justice for all to the bench.

Mark serves this community in so many ways -- and as one of the hardest working people I know, Mark really gets things done for the organizations he serves. He volunteers for Keshet (in fact, he was recently invited to be on the Board of Trustees), and also is very active in volunteering for JUF and The ARK. He has four children in Deerfield schools, and gives a great deal of time as a member of the District 109 school board. His dedication to serving others earned him the American Legion State of Illinois Award of Excellence.

Election Day is Tues., Nov. 2. Please get out and vote for Mark Levitt for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

– *Dana Goldsmith Gordon, Highland Park*

---

## **Mayor supports Levitt**

On November 2, residents of Southeast Lake County will, for the first time, elect a Circuit Court Judge to represent our communities in the courthouse in Waukegan. My vote goes to Mark Levitt. Mark is a leader who is dedicated to making a difference in people's lives -- and he achieves his goal both professionally and personally. He has been a public servant for all of his 20-year legal career. As a highly respected Public Defender, he protects the right of all citizens to fair legal representation. He contributes to the greater good as a very active volunteer in a range of community organizations, including the Deerfield School Board, Rotary, Keshet and JUF. If you join me in voting for Mark Levitt for Circuit Court Judge, we can elect the person who will make the greatest difference in all of our lives.

– *Michael D. Belsky, Mayor of Highland Park*

## **Dedicated Candidates**

Join me in supporting Karen May for State Rep., Anne Flanigan Bassi for Lake County Board and Mark Levitt for Judge.

Karen May has her finger on the pulse of our district. She is responsive and balanced in her approach to legislating on behalf of business, the environment, education and social services. Karen represents the values of the 58<sup>th</sup> District across the spectrum and deserves our support for a job well-done.

Anne Flanigan Bassi has been creative and strategic in obtaining Lake County grant dollars for Highland Park. Her efforts have aided in the development of the Community Family Center, improved stormwater management, and led to the receipt of federal grants for the Community Partners for Affordable Housing to construct award-winning affordable housing in our community.

Anne's experience as a CPA and small business owner makes her particularly aware of the fiscal issues and needs of our community.

Mark Levitt possesses an incredible professional record as a public defender. He is a man of honesty, character and integrity. Among his peers, Mark is known as hard-working and professional. The Lake County Bar Association rated Mark as "Highly Recommended" to be a judge, its highest ranking.

A father of four, Mark currently serves as a board member of the Deerfield Public Schools District 109, working hard to instill excellence in education for our region's children. A dedicated public servant, Mark will bring his qualities of fairness and diligence to the bench.

Please support these extraordinary candidates: Karen May for State Rep., Anne Flanigan Bassi for Lake County Board and Mark Levitt for Judge!

– Nancy Rotering, Highland Park

---

## **Levitt's excellence**

Mark Levitt exemplifies what we all should expect and demand of our candidates for the judiciary.

The reason Mark is highly rated by bar associations is principally due to his legal skills, integrity and professionalism. However, these traits by themselves should not suffice to judge a candidate. A thoughtful listener, an articulate thinker and a fair and well-meaning individual are additional, important characteristics -- and ones that set Mark apart.

Mark will be an excellent judge (Lake County) and we will all be very proud as Illinoisans and residents of Lake County having Mark serve as judge given all his qualifications.

– Douglas B. Swill, Deerfield

---

## **Public Defender's loss is Lake County's gain**

Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to observe, mentor, supervise, and preside over cases involving a wide variety of attorneys. It is with this experience in mind that I enthusiastically support Mark Levitt for the office of Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

Prior to becoming the Cook County Public Defender, I served as a Circuit Court Judge for 23 years. I can state unequivocally that Mark is a shining example of what an attorney should be and I share the widely held belief that Mark will be an outstanding judge. I have observed Mark's tireless devotion to his profession under the most difficult circumstances. I have watched closely as Mark has advocated for his clients against insurmountable odds, with a firm grasp on difficult legal issues, always upholding the values of our system with integrity and the highest moral standards. He is an experienced and talented leader in my office and is more than ready to become a leader in the Lake County court system. Our loss at the Office of the Cook County Public Defender will certainly be Lake County citizens' gain when Mark Levitt is elected to the bench.

– *Judge Abishi C. Cunningham Jr. (Ret.), Cook County Public Defender*

---

## **Lake County needs Levitt**

I have known the Mark Levitt and the Levitt family since entering Red Oak Junior High in Highland Park in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. I'm not surprised that Mark is seeking to become a judge, because he's always been the kind of person who works so hard - not for himself, but to help others and the greater community. I work in the field of special education, and I clearly understand the impact that Mark makes on so many children and their families in giving time and energy to Keshet. I also respect his work as a public defender, where he shows his compassion and dedication to serve all with integrity and fairness.

When I see Mark now, and all that he has accomplished in his career, in his community, and as a husband and father, I am so proud to have know him for so long, and I am proud to give him my vote for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

– *Mindy Ugolini, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt highly recommended**

Leadership, integrity, experience and intelligence are just a handful of traits which come to mind when I think about Mark Levitt. Apply those to a run for judge in Lake County and you have an unbeatable combination when it comes to serving the interests of the broader community.

I have known Mark for 27 years and I strongly support his candidacy for judge in the November election. As I have had the privilege of seeing Mark's growth, from college to law school to the public defender's office, it is no surprise that he earned a "highly recommended" distinction from the Lake County Bar Association.

A devoted family man who possesses an intense desire to uphold our laws and protect our constitutional rights, I know that Mark will be successful and invaluable in his work for the citizens of Lake County as our Circuit Court Judge. He has my vote and he should have yours too.

– *Ken Sacks, Highland Park*

---

## **Lawyer for Levitt**

I've lived in Deerfield for 35 years and practiced law for 45, so I can speak with knowledge about Mark Levitt's qualifications to be a circuit court judge representing my community.

I have watched Mark try cases in court a number of times and he is an incredible attorney. He has unparalleled legal ability; his knowledge of the law and skill in the courtroom are matched by his thorough preparation for every case. As a member of the Illinois Supreme Court Capital Litigation Trial Bar Screening Committee, Mark has been active in working to ensure the high quality of lawyers who practice in capital cases. He also has been a leader in improving the efficiency of courtroom proceedings. Mark is a skilled litigator, no doubt.

But what makes Mark even more impressive is the way that he conducts himself both in and out of the courtroom. Mark's professionalism is well known in the courthouses in which I work. He plays by the rules, is level-headed and treats everyone with respect. He is highly regarded by all attorneys, court staff and judges. He shows great respect for the judicial system, and all of the citizens who are a part of it.

Lake County residents will benefit greatly if Mark is elected to the bench. Not only will we gain the services of a highly regarded professional, we won't lose the services of his opponent who will, win or lose, remain a sitting judge.

– *Edward Genson, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt reasons**

Ever since I worked for the late, great Illinois Sen. Paul Simon in 1987, I have selectively gotten involved in political races.

My criteria for supporting a candidate, regardless of political affiliation, is that the person running for office not only has the experience necessary for the elected office, but also that their views reflect their constituency. Mark Levitt has both the experience necessary to be an outstanding Circuit Court judge and shares the views of our community as evidenced in his work experience, contributions as a community leader and his involvement as a parent.

Furthermore, another important criteria that I believe is paramount to supporting a candidate is that he or she is running for the "right" reasons. When I sat down with Mark over the summer to discuss his candidacy, he was passionate about the opportunity to serve as a Circuit Court judge. I believe that he will bring greater respect and more thoughtful deliberation to our judicial system.

With the support of our community, I will be honored to call Mark Levitt "Your Honor" on Nov. 2!

– *Billy Goodman, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt for our future**

Integrity. Honesty. Caring. Fair. Involved. Personable. Happy. Good values.

Who would have thought one could vote on Nov. 2 for such a person?

The above are not just adjectives; they describe Mark Levitt who is running as a Democrat for Lake County Circuit Court Judge. Even though I support Mark as a fellow Democrat, I am confident in my decision to support Mark because I know he can see both sides of any issue and be fair to all those involved. We should expect that in any judge that is elected, and I know with Mark we can.

Mark has a wealth of experience that would serve him on the bench; he has been a public defender for 20 years and in this role he has tried numerous cases before judges and juries. Vote for Mark Levitt and vote for the future of our judicial system.

– *Maureen Wener, Deerfield*

---

## **Longtime Levitt fans**

Shari and I would like to take this opportunity to tell our community about Mark Levitt, candidate for judge. We both have the unique experience of knowing Mark since we were 14 years old and we believe that this brings to light a different perspective than others may have.

We met Mark our freshman year at Highland Park High School and it was immediately apparent to both of us that Mark was someone who had the unusual ability to listen and mentor at the same time. Mark has taken these excellent characteristics and applied them to his scholastic and professional career. Specifically, Mark has supervised and trained attorneys, investigators, paralegals, law students and law interns. He has been involved in advancing courtroom procedures; in Cook County, he spearheaded an initiative to update and automate the use of electronic data and graphics in trial presentations. In addition, Mark has been an assistant Cook County public defender for 20 years and has tried hundreds of cases before judges and juries. He has extensive experience in both criminal and civil law matters. He has worked with experts in numerous areas of the law, including cutting-edge forensics and DNA.

We are both extremely proud to call Mark a friend and are confident that he will make a superior judge. We implore you to cast your vote for Mark Levitt for judge.

– *Shari and Brad Zenner, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt has integrity**

Last week there were some letters in this publication supporting Mark Levitt for Circuit Court Judge.

These letters mentioned many of his professional, personal, and community accolades which I will not repeat. I would just like to add that Mark Levitt is much more than his resume. He is a man of outstanding integrity and character.

It seems that we now live in a country where election races have diminished to mud slinging, and those that are elected are mostly hated, even from many of the people that voted for them.

But Mark Levitt is a rarity running for office. He will not bash his opponent, nor allow anyone in his campaign to do so. He also seems to be universally liked and respected, both within his profession and his community,

All of this is because Mark Levitt is not a politician. He actually wants to make his part of the world a better place. I know this sounds cliché, but it's true. The hours of time that he already donates to his family, community, and charities speak volumes to me about Mark. Could you ask for more than that from your judge? Please join me in voting for Mark Levitt.

– *David Kahn, Riverwoods*

---

## **Multipartisan support**

Politics isn't usually a "feel good" activity for me.

But I really do feel good about supporting Mark Levitt, the Democrat running for Lake County Circuit Court judge. Mark is a great guy -- a hard-working volunteer for many charitable organizations, someone always willing to serve and to help anyone in the community who is in need. Mark's legal career is certainly impressive, and telling: He has spent the first 20 years of his career in public service, protecting the foundation of our system of justice.

But I believe it's Mark's character that attracts strong, vocal support from Republicans, Independents and Democrats alike -- even from those who don't normally pay any attention to politics. In this time of partisan bickering, it's heartening that a candidate for judicial office transcends party lines. It means something that community members with different perspectives profoundly agree that there is one candidate they can all get behind.

Mark Levitt is that candidate, and he should be that judge for all of us.

– *Rob Samson, Deerfield*

---

## **Former Cook County State's Attorney supports Levitt**

I am writing to encourage Lake County residents to vote for Mark Levitt for Lake County Circuit Court Judge in the 4th subcircuit. Levitt is well qualified to serve in this important, and often overlooked, judicial office.

Throughout my 42-year legal career, I have tried cases against and with hundreds of attorneys. As Cook County State's Attorney, I prosecuted some of the most challenging cases in the court system. It was in just such a case that I came to know Mark Levitt. I was a member of the prosecution team and observed Mark first-hand in a difficult, high profile case. Mark handled that challenging case with skill and professionalism. I saw for myself why he is highly regarded as an outstanding attorney by colleagues, opponents, and judges alike.

I was not surprised to see that Mark received the highest rating, "Highly Recommended," from the Lake County Bar Association. In its review the LCBA found what many in the courtrooms where I have practiced know: Mark has the experience, intelligence, temperament and integrity to be an excellent judge. I have every confidence that Mark will work to protect the rights of all our citizens, victims and defendants alike, and ensure that all are afforded equal access to our courtrooms and receive a full and fair hearing.

I am proud to support Mark Levitt for Judge. I encourage you to vote for him on Nov. 2.

– *Dick Devine, Chicago*

---

## **Balance on the bench**

In Mark Levitt, we have a unique opportunity to elect a highly qualified person as a Lake County Circuit Court judge, and also bring much-needed balance to our court system.

Right now we have 12 Circuit Court judges in Lake County. Of those 12, only one is a Democrat, Judge Jay Ukena. While partisan politics has no room in the courtroom, the court system -- as part of a representative form of government -- is best served by a group of leaders who come from varied personal and professional backgrounds, who share a commitment to ensuring justice, but bring to that commitment different perspectives that reflect the diversity of the community they serve. When elected, Mark Levitt, a Democrat, can help bring that balanced perspective to our local courts. He also will bring the legal ability and experience of someone whom the Lake County Bar Association deemed "highly recommended" to be a judge.

I have known Mark for more than 30 years. He is a person of outstanding character, an excellent father, a committed leader in our community and a top public defender for more than 20 years. Mark will be a fair, dedicated and hard-working judge. Please join me in supporting Mark Levitt.

– *Betsy Brint, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt possesses what a great judge needs**

I strongly urge everyone to vote for Mark Levitt for Circuit Court judge. I have personally known and worked in courtrooms with Mark for the past 15 years. He is a shining example of everything a great lawyer should be. He possesses intelligence, integrity and compassion.

As a trial lawyer who appears before many judges, I ask myself, "Is this someone who a plaintiff, defendant, victim, advocate, prosecutor or defense lawyer would feel comfortable in front of? Will he or she listen with an open mind, follow the law and most importantly, be willing to make the tough and sometimes unpopular calls?" In Mark Levitt we have that jurist.

Furthermore, Mark's opponent, a sitting judge, will remain a judge, regardless of the outcome of this election. So by voting for Mark, our county gets to keep a good judge and acquire a great one.

– *Steven A. Greenberg, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt is impartial**

At a time when some people are concerned that our judges are disconnected from the "real world," we have an opportunity to elect one that is truly involved in his community and has superb legal experience.

Mark Levitt is a member of his local school board, involved with youth baseball and works with volunteer social service organizations. He has an exemplary 20 year record as a public defense trial attorney, he has supervised and trained attorneys, investigators, paralegals, law students and law interns, and he is in the forefront of innovative and cutting edge systems for the courts.

I truly believe that he will be a fair, impartial and pragmatic judge. My vote will go to Mark Levitt.

– *Bob Rosenbacher, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt is choice for county judge**

We've watched Mark Levitt navigate the difficult political process that's required of him as a candidate. He has done so with the same fairness, honesty and integrity with which he approaches everything in his professional and personal life. When Mark is out in the community meeting citizens, or at events with other candidates, he offers non-partisan kindness to all. That's not easy to do in these highly partisan times, but it's Mark's nature to listen, to connect, to care.

As a judge, Mark also will bring a long and impressive legal career to the job. His 20 years of courtroom experience and reputation for integrity and fairness will serve him and us well. He is highly respected by his fellow attorneys and the judges in whose courtrooms he has served.

Our courts, and our community, will benefit greatly with Mark Levitt on the bench. Please join us in voting for him.

– *Pat and Jeanne Shea, Lake Forest*

---

## Reasons for Levitt

Mark Levitt, Democratic candidate for Lake County judge, has the highest rankings from both the Illinois State Bar Association Attorney Poll and the Lake County Bar Association. He has earned those recommendations and they certainly indicate he is highly qualified and deserves our votes.

There are, however, other qualifications that I think are important. I first met Mark when we were on opposite sides of an issue that each of us felt strongly about. What I found most impressive was his interest in finding out what areas we might have in common. Mark's effort to communicate with those who didn't agree with him provided an important insight into the man's way of interacting with people and gave me a view of how he would work with those who come before him in court.

I am also impressed with his compassion. In a trial where the relatives of the victims had to view very graphic pictures of the crime scene, he made sure that counseling services were there for them. For these reasons, I hope you will join me in voting for Mark Levitt for judge on the Democratic ticket.

– *Jeanne L. Schwaba, Deerfield*

---

## Levitt a positive choice

I like Mark Levitt. I like him as a person, and I like him as my choice for Lake County Circuit Court judge.

I like that Mark will begin his judicial career with energy and passion after a long and impressive career in the courtroom. I've lived in this community for 34 years and it's clear to me that we, as citizens, will gain the unique benefit of Mark's extensive legal experience, along with his excitement about serving us on the bench.

I like that the Levitt campaign is positive. This election cycle seems to be particularly negative, and it's refreshing to talk to a candidate who has such positive energy, kindness and a clear focus on doing what's right. Please join me in voting for Mark Levitt for judge.

– *Frank Levy, Highland Park*

---

## Vote for my dad

I'm only 15, a sophomore at Deerfield High School, so I can't vote yet. I know, however, that it won't be long until I can make my statement and I can't wait!

Every race, no matter how small, is important and deserving of attention. My dad's race is a prime example. My dad is Mark Levitt, and he is a Democrat running for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

Some (or many) might say, "Who cares? Why does a judicial race even matter?"

But it does matter. A lot. It matters to a family going through divorce whether the judge is fair and has integrity. I know, because I have friends whose lives have been affected by a judge's decisions. It matters to people who are involved in any kind of lawsuit that their judge is engaged, hard working and intelligent. It matters to anyone who has to step into court for any reason that the judge on the bench has a passion for the law and really knows and cares about the community.

I hope that voters in the November election get to know my dad. They'll learn that not only is he incredibly smart, he is a "doer." Whether it's volunteering for the ARK every month or at Keshet, or spending long hours at School Board meetings, my dad is involved in our community, and that will serve him well as a judge, and definitely will benefit the people who enter his courtroom.

– *Marisa Levitt, Deerfield*

---

## Levitt: Coach, judge

It's not often, if ever, I feel compelled to write to my local newspaper, but there also aren't many, if any, people like Mark Levitt running for public office.

Mark's professional qualifications are well documented and demonstrated by his 20 years of experience in the courtroom. We know Mark outside the courtroom; as a husband, father, friend, coach and volunteer. Coaching on the baseball or soccer field, volunteering in the classroom, or serving as a member of the District 109 school board, he is filled with a sense of purpose to help his community. He balances the demands of work, community and family while giving complete devotion to everything he does; all with a genuine smile on his face.

Mark was our son's first soccer coach and his baseball coach last year. He has an endless amount of patience and is impartial, fair and respectful to every player and parent on his team. As parents of four children we find it hard to volunteer in every classroom and attend all school events, but undoubtedly Mark is always there and his presence reminds us where our priorities should be. Mark is never too busy to stop and talk to friends; He loves his community and the people who live in it.

Mark Levitt has personal attributes we seek in a judge -- integrity, respect, compassion, and wisdom. His character, experience, work ethic and commitment to our community and to his family make him an exemplary candidate for circuit court judge.

– *Jill and Jason Feldman, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt has judicial characteristics**

We are proud to support Mark Levitt for circuit court judge. In every aspect of Mark's life, fairness and integrity are at the forefront. He embodies all the characteristics of a good judge.

We have known Mark for many years as a dedicated attorney, volunteer and most importantly, parent. As a public defender, Mark has devoted his entire 20-year career to protecting the integrity of our justice system so that all have the right to a fair trial. Mark will ensure the system's fairness in bringing his own personal integrity to the judiciary. Mark demonstrates his commitment to public service through his hard work on the Deerfield school board and as an active volunteer for The ARK and Keshet.

We know Mark's family well, and see clearly his devotion to them. For years he has coached his kids' soccer and baseball teams (and now serves as DYBA league president), and frequently spends time in classrooms and at activities at Wilmot, Caruso and Deerfield High School.

Mark's vast legal experience, temperament and devotion to community service will make him an excellent Lake County Circuit Court Judge. Please join us in giving him your vote.

*– Harold and Holly Israel, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt a good choice for both parties**

Politically, we don't agree on much. On a number of political issues, social or fiscal, we fall on opposite sides of the fence. However, this election season, it is easy to find common ground on one candidate: Mark Levitt for Lake County Circuit Court judge.

Whether you're a Republican or Democrat, it is clear to see that Mark has the outstanding legal experience and knowledge to be an excellent judge. The Lake County Bar Association, in a thorough review, gave Mark the stamp of "Highly Recommended," its highest rating. We agree that Mark's dedication to his job and his community reveals a person who will be dedicated to applying the law with fairness and compassion. We agree that Mark is a person whose unquestionable integrity, strength of character and unmatched work ethic will allow him to be one of the best judges Lake County has ever seen.

Mark Levitt is the candidate for Lake County Circuit Court Judge that reaches across party lines. We agree that he deserves our votes -- and we hope you'll give him yours as well.

*– Lauren Beth Gash, Highland Park  
and Vicki Pasquesi, Lake Forest*

---

## **Levitt's focused on fairness**

If Mark Levitt is elected as a Lake County Circuit Court judge, we all will benefit from his energy and passion to be a positive force in our community. That's why he has my vote.

Mark began his career as a public defender, and remains in the same job today. I've had the opportunity to hear Mark speak about his very difficult job. It requires that Mark be an extremely intelligent attorney with a razor-sharp focus on the fact that if our legal system doesn't provide a fair forum for everyone, it doesn't work for anyone.

Mark is that smart and focused person. He has the compassion, clarity and high ethical standards in the courtroom as an attorney that will make him an extraordinary judge on the bench.

– *Ronald S. Diamond, Highland Park*

---

## **Get to know Levitt**

Who is Mark Levitt? You see his signs. You know he is running for judge. But who is he? If you are like us, you enter the voting booth knowing some candidates, knowing only the names of others and not knowing a lot more about the votes you cast.

In this election, you know Mark even if you've never met him. You know Mark if you know someone who cares deeply about his family and community.

You know him if you have neighbors or friends who are involved in their synagogues and devote their time and energy to the less fortunate through organizations like The ARK.

You know Mark because you know lawyers who take the harder, less-traveled path of public service, dedicating themselves and their professional careers to those in need. You know lawyers who pride themselves on honesty and fairness, whose word is their bond and whose integrity means more to them than winning and losing.

Mark is that lawyer, a public defender for 20 years, who works hard at giving back to the community while contributing the highest work and moral ethic to the demanding practice of law.

He is in the middle of his impressive career, not at the end, and is energized to be the judge we all want and need.

We know Mark Levitt and so do you. Join us in casting a knowing ballot for Mark Levitt on Nov. 2.

– *Randy and Carrie Klein, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt a leader**

Mark Levitt is the Democratic candidate for Lake County Circuit Court judge. He is a proven courtroom leader and respected teacher in his field. Mark's experience, knowledge and character will ensure that all parties in every case will have a full hearing, receive a fair judgment based on all the facts, and be treated with respect and compassion.

Mark's litigation and trial experience in the courtroom is extensive and impressive. For 20 years, Mark has tried hundreds of cases before judges and juries as a public defender. Mark is dedicated to protecting the rights of the citizens of Lake County and has the courtroom experience, sharp legal mind and unquestionable integrity to do so with unwavering fairness.

As a father of four and a long-time Deerfield resident, he volunteers throughout his community, and still finds time to give back to his profession by lecturing and mentoring others. With his depth of knowledge and experience and his commitment to his career and his community, it is not hard to see why I admire and support him. Please join me in voting for Mark Levitt for judge on Nov. 2.

– *Stephanie Victor, Lake Forest*

---

## **Primary opponent supports Levitt**

Mark Levitt is running for circuit judge in Lake County, and he was my opponent in the Democratic primary. I strongly encourage my friends and neighbors, and those who supported me in that primary, to cast a ballot for Levitt for judge on Nov. 2.

I met Mark during the primary campaign, and our rivalry was a friendly one. He is an intelligent, experienced legal professional, an involved parent and community member, and in addition to that, as anybody who knows him would tell you, he is a good person.

If these qualities can shine through to a political opponent during the heat of a political campaign, it is clear to me that we will be fortunate to have the opportunity to support Mark as he runs for circuit judge.

I have been an attorney in Lake County for 18 years. During the course of my career, I have appeared before many judges. I know that Mark Levitt, if elected, would be among the best of them.

– *Dwayne Douglas, Highland Park*

---

## **An exceptional choice**

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mark Levitt for over 30 years. This knowledge provides me with the unique opportunity to provide support to a candidate who I can say I have known since grade school. The qualities that made Mark a friend then are the same ones that will make him an asset to our community as a judge.

Mark has always shown compassion for people in his personal life and that trait will assist him on the bench. As a trial lawyer, I understand the importance of having a judge who is both learned in the law and the human condition. He has 20 years of courtroom experience, including the handling of complex cases. He is a true listener, and considers all sides of an issue and how any decision he makes will affect others.

The combination of his compassion and experience makes Mark an exceptional candidate for a spot in the Lake County judiciary.

– *Ken Hoffman, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt serves community**

Many people in our community know Mark Levitt well. They've interacted with him as a parent, school board member, coach, Rotarian and volunteer. They've seen him in the press as an accomplished trial attorney.

As anyone can see from the numerous Levitt for Judge yard signs in the area, Mark Levitt has a lot of support. And it's no wonder. In the relatively short time that I've known Mark Levitt, it has become clear to me that Mark would make an excellent Circuit Court Judge here in Lake County. He is a great guy who freely gives of his time and energy to our community.

It matters to me that he volunteers for Keshet and the ARK. It matters to me that both Mark and his wife Cathie frequently help out at Wilmot School. It matters to me that, as a school board member, Mark is well known for going out of his way to make sure voices on all sides of an issue are heard. It matters to me that his legal ability in his 20 years in the courtroom is exceptional.

I'll be voting for Mark Levitt for judge on Nov. 2 because he has the qualities and the character that matter to all of us.

– *Rafi Arbel, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt good for county**

Why should you care who gets your vote for judge? Why should you even flip your ballot over and vote?

Those are common questions, especially given the fact that many voters don't know much about judicial candidates. I want to encourage voters to get to know Mark Levitt, the Democratic candidate for Lake County Circuit Court Judge. If you meet him, you'll quickly learn that Mark is an all-around good person who is an experienced lawyer and an active volunteer who is dedicated to his profession, community, friends and family.

Judicial races aren't "big," but they can have a huge impact. Judges in Lake County courts make decisions that affect businesses, homes, finances and families in our community. I own my own business in Highland Park, and if I ever have to go to court, I want to appear before a judge who is going to really listen to me, and who understands the law and how it applies to my case.

When I cast my vote for Circuit Court Judge, I'm going to vote for the person who will do the best job of listening, understanding all the facts and the law, and applying the law to make a fair decision. I'm voting for Mark Levitt.

– *Steve Wilneff, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt is valued friend**

Surely, everyone has seen the royal-blue-can't-miss-'em "Levitt for Judge" signs and bumper magnets all over Deerfield ... but just who is Mark Levitt?

You've heard about his 20 years of experience in the courtroom, his fairness, unyielding commitment to justice, intelligence. I know the family man, the true essence of his character. Mark is my neighbor and my friend. I see him, not in suits and ties, but in Nikes and running shorts. He is master of the balancing act. He is a high-profile attorney on cases we read about on the front page; yet he maintains his front-line status at home. He's the dad who doesn't miss an event for his four kids - at Wilmot, Caruso and Deerfield High School. He runs from the courtroom in the city to long nights at School Board meetings. He cares about our community, and the future of our kids -- his kids, mine and yours. Mark gives all of himself to each of his roles. Not to mention he's a great husband - big on romance (which goes far in my book).

Everyone in Deerfield has been touched in some way by Mark; I've been touched by his friendship. Voting for Mark Levitt for judge is truly a vote for "the man" -- someone willing to give the best of himself to all of us. He's got my vote on Nov. 2.

– *Lisa Barr, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt Is a Vote for Experience**

I strongly encourage my fellow Lake County residents to vote for Mark Levitt, Democrat for Lake County Circuit Court Judge. Mark is clearly the most qualified candidate in this judicial race. The Lake County Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association agree; both gave Mark their highest ratings.

A graduate of the University of Illinois Law School, Mark has been an Assistant Cook County Public Defender for 19 years. He brings extensive courtroom experience in both criminal and civil litigation and is well regarded by colleagues, opponents, clients and judges. Mark will be an honest and fair judge. His personal mission is to protect the rights of every citizen and ensure that our legal system provides access, justice and fairness to all.

I am proud to support Mark Levitt for Judge. Vote for him on Election Day, February 2.

– *Scott Lassar, Highland Park*  
*Former United States Attorney, Northern District of Illinois*

---

## **Lawyer for Levitt**

I am writing to express my support for Mark Levitt for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

I have known Mark both personally and professionally for over 25 years, since we were classmates together at Highland Park High School. Mark is an outstanding attorney with uncompromising integrity and good judgment. He is smart, diplomatic, decisive and personable and, without doubt, will be an outstanding addition to the Lake County bench.

Mark has devoted his career to public service and joining the bench now is the next well deserved step in that commitment he has made to serve his community. For the past 19 years he has been a leader and star in the Office of the Cook County Public Defender where he has earned a reputation as one of our very best attorneys and gained the truly unique and valuable experience that will make him a great judge. Not only is Mark incredibly qualified, but he is a good person, devoted husband and father to four great kids. I have the highest regard for Mark and his family and complete confidence that as a judge he will serve our community and the citizens of Lake County with the same excellence, integrity and fairness that I know are at the forefront of everything he does.

As an attorney myself, it is critical to me that we encourage and support the finest people to serve as our judges. I have appeared before many of our very best judges and know that Mark will be one of those excellent judges. Please join me and vote for Mark for Lake County Circuit Court Judge on Election Day, February 2.

Lake County citizens deserve to have Mark Levitt on the bench.

– *Frank Pasquesi, Lake Forest*

---

## **Levitt for Judge**

Working in the legal field, we believe the quality and integrity of the judges who serve our communities is critical to the safety and wellbeing of life in Lake County. And that is why we are encouraging every citizen to vote for Mark Levitt for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

Mark will bring legal experience, compassion, family values, fairness and integrity to the bench. Those who lead our courts play a strong role in leading our society. We have known Mark, his wife Catherine and their children for years. We supported Mark in his bid for School Board representative. Not a day goes by when Mark is not adding to the health of our community and families. Every day, judges in Lake County rule on family cases, civil rights, felony offenses, drug and mental health issues, and, sure, parking tickets and traffic safety violations. Please join us in making Lake County a safe, secure and sound place to live.

– *Ellen and Jon Hattenbach, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt Stands Out**

Mark Levitt, a candidate for judge in the upcoming February primary, stood out among my Highland Park High School and U. of I. law school classmates. Mark understood the law instinctively and pledged from day one to be an attorney who would make a difference.

Mark continues to prove me correct. He has shown remarkable drive and ability during his nearly 20 years of practice with the Office of the Cook County Public Defender. Mark has represented the interests of our most needy juveniles and adults in minor cases, capital murder cases and everything in between throughout the course of his career. Mark works to protect the rights of people who otherwise would not have access to legal representation. Work is not about money to Mark, but rather about fairness and the rights we all have in our system of government.

Mark makes a difference in his community both in and out of his law office. Mark is an elected volunteer member of the Deerfield School District 109 Board of Education and a coach and league administrator in youth soccer and baseball leagues in Deerfield where he and his wife, Catherine, raise their four children.

I remember saying to Mark during a Civil Litigation class in law school that of all lawyers and would-be lawyers I know he would make the finest judge. Twenty-two years later I feel exactly the same way. Mark represents what we want of our judges: fairness, honesty, intelligence and understanding. I hope you will join me in voting for him.

– *Kevin B. Apter, Highwood*

---

## **Vote for Levitt**

I am writing to strongly support my friend and colleague, Mark Levitt, for Lake County Circuit Court Judge. I grew up in Highland Park with Mark, and currently work with him in the Office of the Cook County Public Defender. I first met Mark in high school, where he was two classes ahead of me. Mark was friends with, what seemed like, everyone in the school. Quickly, I discovered that there was substance to his charisma. In the 25 years I have known Mark, I came to appreciate a special kindness about him that would translate well to being a fair and reasonable judge with a demeanor perfect for the job. I have seen Mark in the courtroom, where he has spent almost two decades. On the job, he is a catalyst and always a positive energy. Indeed, I am awed by his preparation and work ethic. Quite simply, he has the most outstanding credentials – knowledge of the law, depth and breadth of experience, and unquestionable integrity – to qualify him as the best candidate to make important decisions for us, the citizens of Lake County. I encourage you to cast your vote for him.

– *Richard Paull, Highland Park*

---

## **Former Classmate Supports Levitt**

With so many of our elected leaders seemingly pursuing their own personal agendas, it is refreshing to be able to support a judicial candidate whose integrity and commitment to fairness comprise his entire platform. That candidate is Mark Levitt. I wholeheartedly recommend Mark for Lake County Circuit Court Judge and urge voters in the county to place Mark on the bench.

I have had the good fortune of calling Mark my friend since we were undergraduates and law school classmates at the University of Illinois. Since then, Mark has proven to be both a tireless advocate for the principles of the legal bar while finding the time to remain a committed husband, father and friend.

Mark and I spent many months together as mock trial partners in law school and I was able to witness first-hand his advocacy skills and his quick grasp of trial procedure. Thus, it was no surprise to me that Mark's talents led him to a premier position with the Office of the Cook County Public Defender. Currently, he is a member of the Homicide Task Force, a group of attorneys who handle the most complex and serious cases. Before that, Mark was a member of the Felony Trial Division for several years. In those roles, Mark has ardently, yet fairly, represented his clients' interests and protected their rights. In all cases, he remained true to the principles of the law. It is that sense of fairness and the years spent in actual trial practice that make Mark the ideal judicial candidate.

If Lake County residents are looking to fill the newly opened judicial seat with an experienced courtroom presence and an unbending sense of fairness and integrity, Mark Levitt is the ideal choice.

– *Steven M. Prebish, Deerfield*

---

## For “Lawyer’s Lawyer”

It is difficult to get excited about a judicial race. People do not know who the judicial candidates are, and they generally don’t care. Only if they should happen to appear in court, do they hope that the judge is the “best” – that the judge has a solid, broad-based education; a proper judicial temperament; and a sharp legal mind.

Arguably, at the local level, there is no more important election than that for judge.

Sure, mayoral races receive the attention and invoke passion, but it is the judiciary that decides those cases where mayoral acts are challenged. With the power to ascertain parties’ rights, award significant money damages, send people to prison, and award custody of children, the importance of selecting the best judge cannot be overstated.

Lake County now has a rare opportunity. Mark Levitt has decided to forego his significant and well-renowned legal practice, and devote his energies and talent to serving as a Lake County judge. Levitt is a “lawyer’s lawyer,” one to whom other lawyers turn for advice and insight, and he will be a “judge’s judge.” With literally hundreds of trials under his belt – a rarity among lawyers these days – Levitt understands how a courtroom should work and how to protect litigants’ rights.

It is little wonder, then, why the Lake County Bar Association – the lawyers who actually practice in Lake County – gave Levitt its highest endorsement, “Highly Recommended.” While I have no doubt that the other judicial candidates are fine attorneys, Levitt stands alone as a true legal scholar and practitioner. He has the perfect blend of book and practical smarts, matched with unimpeachable integrity.

Mark Levitt is the best judicial candidate in the field, with the second best far behind.

As a long-time practicing attorney myself, I know an excellent attorney when I see one, and the qualities necessary to be an excellent judge. If there is one time that voters in Lake County should vote for a judge, it should be now, for Mark Levitt.

– *Kenneth J. Ashman, Riverwoods*

---

## Send Coach to Court

While I’m not a lawyer, I do know the kind of person who should preside over the courtrooms that serve my community: intelligent, involved, ethical and compassionate. Mark Levitt is such a person, and he is my choice for Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

I met Mark at a “Me and My Dad” program when our sons were in 1<sup>st</sup> grade (they’re now in 7<sup>th</sup> grade), and I have come to know him very well over the many years we have coached together for the Deerfield Youth Baseball Association. Through DYBA and AYSO soccer, Mark has coached countless Deerfield children. Mark’s influence on each of his players will resonate throughout their lifetime. He always models fairness and reason, and shows patience, understanding and respect for players, their parents and the officials.

Our community deserves to have Mark Levitt on the bench. Please vote for him on February 2.

– *Mark Chodash, Deerfield*

---

## Levitt will be pillar of justice

It is infrequent I meet an individual running for public office whose character, intelligence and commitment prompt me to write publicly in his favor. I recently had the pleasure and privilege to meet with Mark Levitt, Democratic judicial candidate for the Lake County Circuit Court, to discuss his legal and personal background, philosophy and objectives. He is an outstanding individual, well suited to the position he seeks.

As a public defender, he understands and lives by the responsibilities incumbent to that position; to defend those who cannot otherwise defend themselves. His actions have reinforced core principals of justice and fairness in our society. His continued presence in our courts, this time as a judge, will immeasurably strengthen the Lake County judicial system on behalf of its citizens. I wholly recommend that his candidacy is supported. I am confident he will be a pillar of justice in our county courts.

– *Stephen Z. Ballen, Lake Forest*

---

## Levitt: Best For Lake County

Mark Levitt is a person of integrity, a decent and responsible guy – a *mensch*. I'm proud to give him my vote for Democrat for Circuit Court Judge.

I've known Mark for many years. You can't miss him around Deerfield: He's a well-known coach on the baseball and soccer fields and a frequent volunteer in the schools. He's a thoughtful member of the District 109 school board. Whenever I, or any community member, have a question or concern about the schools, Mark spends the time to listen and to clearly and completely answer questions. I know Mark's four children as well. I believe that children are often a reflection of their parents; that is definitely true of Mark and Cathie Levitt's children. They are respectful, bright and kind – just really good kids.

Mark and I have similar upbringing: We were both raised in Highland Park and belonged to the same synagogue, and had parents that instilled the importance of truth, honor and doing the right thing. This reinforces my belief that Mark is the best choice in this race.

As a judge, Mark will bring to all of Lake County the same qualities of integrity, fairness and commitment that have made our community stronger. Please support Mark Levitt for Circuit Court Judge.

– *Miriam Berlin, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt: A Leader**

Next week, we have the opportunity to select our nominee for a newly created judicial seat. This judgeship represents those of us who live in Highland Park, Highwood, Deerfield, Riverwoods, Bannockburn, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Mettawa, Libertyville, Green Oaks and parts of Buffalo Grove, and North Chicago.

Mark Levitt, an exceptional individual who has dedicated his life to public service, is the leading Democratic contender in this race. Instead of focusing his career on making the most money, Mark Levitt has focused on making the greatest difference. As one of the most highly regarded public-sector lawyers in Illinois, Levitt has spent nearly two decades at the epicenter of our criminal justice system, trying many of the court's most complex and difficult cases. Levitt's long history of public service demonstrates the commitment needed for this position. That he has not become cynical of, or jaded by, the system foreshadows the enthusiasm and integrity he will bring to the bench. The high regard of his peers and judges evidence his qualifications for the job.

Our community will be enriched if Mark Levitt serves on the bench. Levitt lives in Deerfield with his wife, Cathie, and their four children. In addition to his sizable contribution to the public good in his day job, Mark finds time to serve on his local school board. Levitt exhibits that rare combination of intelligence, good sense and principle. Please cast your vote for Mark Levitt. Put our best on the bench.

*– Joshua Hoyt, Highland Park*

---

## **Our Choice Is Levitt**

We are writing in support of Mark Levitt for the Democratic nomination for Lake County Circuit Court Judge. We have known Mark and his fine family since he was a young teen in Highland Park, and have watched him mature into a wonderful husband, father of four, and community leader. A man of honesty and integrity with high standards and strong values and a dedicated public servant, Mark will bring his qualities of fairness and diligence to the bench.

Mark possesses an incredible professional record as an Assistant Cook County Public Defender. Among his peers, he is known as hard working and always professional. That's why Lake County Bar Association gave Mark its highest rating to be a judge, and why, in a poll of attorneys who know his work, Mark also earned the highest rating.

As 32-year residents of Deerfield, we appreciate Mark's community commitment. He is a member of the District 109 School Board and active in the Deerfield Youth Baseball Association and Congregation B'nai Tikvah. He volunteers long hours to encourage fair play and to help instill excellence in education for our community's children.

This is an opportunity for southern Lake County to bring a person of quality to the bench, and we hope readers will join us in choosing Mark Levitt as the Democratic Party's candidate for judge.

*– Dr. Gary and Roberta Morris, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt For The Greater Good**

In this hotly contested judicial race, Mark Levitt stands out and deserves our votes. As a Circuit Court Judge, Mark Levitt will represent Lake County well because he is devoted to serving the greater good. He has done so at work in the Office of the Cook County Public Defender, and in his community as a member of the Deerfield District 109 School Board, and with his involvement in civic groups and youth sports organizations.

His unparalleled legal experience makes him uniquely qualified for the bench. As a member of a specialized group of attorneys who handle capital cases, he protects our legal system by ensuring that everyone has access to legal representation. His credentials are such that he not only practices this type of law, but also sits on the Illinois Supreme Court Capital Litigation Trial Bar Screening Committee, which certifies other lawyers to do so.

The Lake County Bar Association did an extensive investigation into Mark's career. They interviewed colleagues, opposing counsel and judges who know Mark and his work well. As a result of that review, the LCBA rated Mark "Highly Recommended" to be a judge – their highest rating.

We are impressed by Mark Levitt and will be proud to cast our votes for him for Judge on Election Day. We strongly encourage our fellow Lake County residents to vote for the candidate with unmatched experience: Mark Levitt.

– *Marcia and Jim Rosenbaum, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt Will Be a Welcome Addition to the Judiciary**

Mark Levitt has my wholehearted support for Circuit Judge in the newly created Fourth Subcircuit of Lake County.

Since graduating from the University of Illinois Law School, Mark has devoted his legal career to public service. While gaining extensive experience in both criminal and civil litigation, Mark has never lost his idealism or his desire to ensure that the system of justice works for all of us. He will be a judge who will not forget that he was once an advocate representing clients in the courtroom, and he will remain true to his fundamental notions of justice and dignity.

I have practiced law in and around Chicago, Illinois, since January 1971, after serving on active duty in the Judge Advocate General Corps of the United States Army. As a practicing attorney, I have had occasion to appear before many state and federal judges. Judges affect litigants who appear before them in very significant ways, in ways that affect personal freedom, family welfare, financial well-being, and more. I believe that, as a judge, Mark Levitt will affect the litigants who appear before him in positive ways. He will be a most welcome addition to the judiciary.

I strongly urge my fellow Lake County citizens to vote for Mark Levitt in the Democratic primary election on February 2.

– *Richard Hillsberg, Highland Park*

---

## **Levitt: Bright, Hard Working, Devoted**

If you're not an attorney, you may not have too many occasions to find yourself standing before a judge. If you do, you can appreciate the importance of having someone who is bright, thoughtful and has integrity. As an attorney for nearly 20 years, I have presented cases before many judges. I recall as a young lawyer, spending a significant amount of time drafting briefs for a motion. Each party presented the briefs to the judge weeks before the oral arguments. At the time of the hearing, the judge looked at both attorneys and asked, "What's this case about?" He had not read any of the briefs. Within two minutes, he made his ruling without further consideration. That was my introduction to the court system, at least in his courtroom.

I have been before many hard working judges who have impressed me with their skill and analyses. Those of us who know Mark Levitt, know how bright he is. If we follow his career, we know how hard working he is. But most importantly, when we see him with his wonderful family, and when we observe his enormous participation in the community, we understand how much devotion goes into everything he does. That is exactly the type of character you want in the judge you stand before as a citizen or as an attorney. You can be confident in your vote for Mark Levitt.

– *Paul Byck, Deerfield*

---

## **Looking Up to Levitt**

I grew up in Highland Park and currently live in Buffalo Grove. I know both communities well, and know that Mark Levitt is a valuable asset to them. He should be the person who represents us in Waukegan as our Lake County Circuit Court Judge.

Mark graduated a few years ahead of me at Highland Park High School. I looked up to him then because he was always the person who cared, who looked out for others, who put himself out there to do what was right, in every situation.

I look up to Mark now, because he is that same giving, principled person – a good friend, a good father, a good guy. He's well respected in his community and his career. The Lake County Bar Association gave Mark its highest rating to be a judge. Allow Mark to be a judge we can respect in our courts; vote for Mark Levitt, Democrat for Judge, on February 2.

– *Lisa Spewak, Director, Early Childhood Education, JCYS Northwest Family Center, Buffalo Grove*

---

## **Vote for Levitt**

Please vote for Mark Levitt on the Democratic ballot for Circuit Court Judge of the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Sub district. I am past commissioner of Deerfield Youth Baseball and Softball Association (DYBA). I have known Mark in two arenas and have been impressed by him in both. As a father, coach and league president in DYBA Mark has shown commitment, love for his community and care for our children. He understands fair play and the ability to change lives by playing by the rules and doing the right thing. I saw Mark's passion for education and our children again, when I heard him speak as a candidate for the District 109 School Board. Just as importantly I have seen and heard Mark's candor and intelligence when I have spoken with him regarding issues affecting our schools and community. Mark's dedication to the law and public service is clearly demonstrated by his 19 years of outstanding service as a public defender. I cannot imagine a more caring, dedicated, talented and capable individual to serve our community in such an important role. Once again, please vote for Mark Levitt and encourage others to do so on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

– *Harry Steindler, Deerfield*

---

## **Levitt is a Candidate of Character**

I am impressed by Mark Levitt – his career, his commitment, his character. As an informed voter, my choice for Circuit Court Judge in the Democratic primary is Mark.

As a fellow member of our synagogue, I know that Mark is involved and well liked throughout the community. When you talk to Mark, you quickly learn his passion for justice. That passion is evident in his career choice; he is an assistant public defender in Cook County, leading the defense in high-profile capital punishment cases. It also is clear when he conveys his hope to use his vast experience to become a judge who can make a strong and positive impact on the lives of so many people.

I want to give him that opportunity – and give Lake County citizens an opportunity to have the best judges in our court system. That's why I will vote for Mark Levitt.

– *Bess Levin, Highland Park*