

**Thomas V. Lyons**

**"Elect Judge Lyons"**

**Fairness, Integrity, Experience**

**Legal Experience**

**Appointed Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County  
by the Illinois Supreme Court**

**August 2008 – Present**

Presently assigned to the First Municipal District, Traffic Division.

**Nolan Law Group, Attorney**

**2005 – 2008**

AV rated plaintiff's personal injury firm concentrating in Aviation Accidents, Brain Injury, Medical Malpractice, Wrongful Death, Premise Liability, Construction Negligence, Railroad and Motor Vehicle Accidents. While most of my work has involved representing multiple victims of foreign aviation disasters, one of my most significant cases was *Barry Schrager v. North Community Bank et al.* In this case, I defended North Community Bank in a jury trial before the Honorable William Taylor. The Plaintiff was seeking millions of dollars in damages alleging negligent and fraudulent misrepresentation on the part of the Bank's CEO and the Bank's President. The jury found in favor of our client, North Community Bank, as well as the individual defendants. The Appellate Court affirmed the case in September, 2007.

**Cook County State's Attorney's Office,  
Assistant State's Attorney**

**1986 – 2005**

Over 15 years with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in the Criminal, Narcotics, Special Prosecutions, and Civil Actions Bureaus. Experience includes over 50 jury trials in State and Federal Courts, hundreds of bench trials and motions, as well as arguments before the Illinois Supreme Court and the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. Management and administrative experience includes serving as the State's Attorney's representative at Cook County Board meetings, Litigation Subcommittee meetings, and the Electoral Board. Supervisory positions include Trial Supervisor in the Felony Review Unit, Deputy Supervisor of the Labor and Employment Section, Chief of the Special Litigation Division of the Civil Actions Bureau, and Deputy Chief of the Civil Actions Bureau.

*Civil Actions Bureau, Deputy Bureau Chief*

**December 1999 – November 2005**

*Civil Actions Bureau, Special Litigation Division, Division Chief*

- Responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Civil Actions Bureau
- Responsible for four divisions, nine sections and over one hundred attorneys in the Bureau
- Administrative duties included numerous personnel responsibilities while still serving as Chief of the Special Litigation Division

*Civil Actions Bureau, Special Litigation Division,  
Division Chief*

**September 1999 – November 2005**

- Directly responsible for all litigation in the Labor and Employment and Medical Litigation Sections
- Argued cases before both the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals and Illinois Supreme Court
- Involved in the defense of many complex matters, including class action litigation

*Civil Actions Bureau, Labor and Employment Section,  
Deputy Supervisor*

**June 1997 – September 1999**

- Immediate supervisor for 12 attorneys in the section
- Defended Cook County and County Officials in Labor and Employment Discrimination cases
- Conducted numerous arbitrations, termination hearings and trials in many different forums
- Significant accomplishments include Not Guilty verdicts in three jury trials in Federal Court where the plaintiffs alleged discrimination and retaliation in employment related matters

*Civil Actions Bureau, Federal Litigation Section*

**January 1996 – June 1997**

- Defended Cook County and County Officials in Federal Civil Rights cases
- Significant accomplishments include Not Guilty verdicts in four jury trials in Federal Court defending Sheriff's Police and Correctional Officers in Federal Civil Rights Lawsuits alleging excessive force

*Criminal Prosecutions Bureau, Felony Trial Division,  
26<sup>th</sup> and California*

**May 1991 – January 1996**

- Appointed First Chair in July, 1994
- Responsibilities included managing a court call of over 200 felony cases, including over 40 murders
- Experience includes over 38 felony jury trials as well as countless bench trials and motions
- Tried many complex cases including, but not limited to, Capital Murder, Solicitation to Commit Murder for Hire, Double Murders, Gang Murders, Aggravated Arson, Insanity and Double Jury Cases

*Narcotics Bureau, Felony Trial Division*

**September 1986 – May 1991**

*Preliminary Hearing Unit*

*Felony Review Unit*

*First Municipal District and Traffic Division*

*Criminal Appeals Division*

*Special Assignments*

- *Legal Hiring/Recruiting Coordinator* December, 1996 to April, 1997
- *Trial Supervisor in the Felony Review Unit*, Supervised 10 attorneys from January 1995 to March 1995
- *Special Prosecutions Bureau, Organized Crime Unit* June 1992 to May 1993. Experience includes extensive use of the Illinois Eaves dropping statute, using recorded conversations at trial and extensive Grand Jury Investigation.

### **Continuing Legal Education**

- ITLA: Liens and Settlements Seminar, 2008
- North Suburban Bar Association: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice and Real Life Disasters, Before and During Trial Seminar, Speaker 2008
- ITLA: Insurance and Bad Faith Seminar, 2008
- ITLA: Medical Negligence Seminar, 2007
- ITLA: Top Ten Things Every Lawyer Should Know, 2007
- ITLA: Update and Review, 2006
- A View from the Bench: Practical Application of Amended Rule 213, 2002
- ITLA: Medical Negligence Seminar, 2002
- ITLA: Avoiding Common Pitfalls – Including the New Rule 213, 2002
- ITLA: Tort Litigation: From Intake to Verdict, 2002
- ITLA: Workers' Compensation Seminar, 2001
- Midwest Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, Speaker 2000
- ITLA: Medical Negligence Seminar, 1999
- Labor Arbitration Institute: Labor Law and Labor Arbitration Seminar, 1998
- National College of District Attorneys: Government Civil Practice Sem., 1996

### **Education**

#### **Loyola University of Chicago, School of Law, *Juris Doctor*, 1986**

- Law School's Leadership & Service Award Recipient, 1986
- Federal Defender Prgrm, Paid Law Clerk, September 1985 – September 1986
- U.S. House of Representatives, Committee-Ways and Means, Summer 1985
- Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity Officer
- American Trial Lawyers Association, Trial Advocacy Workshop
- School of Law, Rome Program
- Loyola University Community Law Center, Student Practitioner

#### **Northwestern University, *Bachelor of Arts in Political Science*, 1983**

- Sigma Chi Fraternity Officer
- Undergraduate Law Society

### **Awards and Recognition**

- Honored by peers in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for years of dedication and service to the citizens of Cook County, April 2006
- Honored in a Cook County Board Resolution for 19 years of outstanding service to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, December 2005
- Honored by Cook County State's Attorney, Richard A. Devine, for outstanding contributions to the Citizens of Cook County through "exceptional dedication and commitment, superior leadership, and remarkable work ethic." November 2005
- Selected as one of Illinois' Super Lawyers by *Law & Politics*
- Voted by peers as a member of Leading Lawyers Network

### **Bar Admissions and Professional Associations**

- Admitted to the Illinois Bar
- Admitted to United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- Admitted to United States District Court, Northern District of IL, Trial Bar
- Admitted to the United States Court of Appeals for the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit
- Chicago Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association, Judicial Evaluation Committee
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association
- Women's Bar Association of Illinois
- Charter Member of the Prosecutor's Bar Association of Illinois
- Catholic Lawyers Guild Member
- Leading Lawyers Network
- Illinois Super Lawyer

### **Community Involvement**

- Served on Attorney General Lisa Madigan's Transition Team
- National Appellate Advocacy Competition, Judge, National Finals Competition, 2002
- National Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition, Judge, 2000, 2001, 2002
- Midwest Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, Instructor, 2000
- 45th Ward Regular Democratic Organization Member
- AYSO Volunteer Coach
- Glenview Park District Volunteer Coach
- Misericordia Heart of Mercy Volunteer