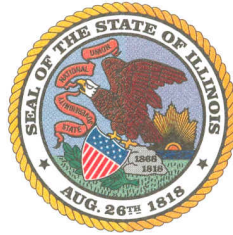


STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT  
SEVENTENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

EUGENE G. DOHERTY  
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
400 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 215  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101  
PHONE (815) 319-4806

June 24, 2021

**For Immediate Release**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Associate Judge Donna R. Honzel Receives  
Winnebago County Bar Association Award**

**ROCKFORD, IL** – Chief Judge Eugene G. Doherty is pleased to announce that on June 23<sup>rd</sup> Associate Judge Donna R. Honzel was honored with the Winnebago County Bar Association Seely Forbes Award. Each year, the Winnebago County Bar Association presents its Seely Forbes Award to a member of the association who best exemplifies Judge Forbes’ characteristics of kindness, courtesy, thoughtfulness, consideration, and moral courage.

Outgoing Winnebago County Bar Association President Douglas Henry commented, “Judge Honzel is a most worthy recipient of the Seely Forbes Award. Throughout her career as a lawyer and judge she has always displayed kindness to her colleagues and the public. She exemplifies the highest ideals of our profession to which we all aspire and serves as a role model of good citizenship to us all.”

“I was completely taken by surprise,” said Judge Honzel. “So many prior recipients have been people I admired and respected and to be included in that group is an incredible honor.”

Judge Honzel received her undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Central Missouri State University in 1988, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Illinois in 1991. She was appointed as an associate judge in December 2015. Judge Honzel is currently assigned to the Civil Division and presides over assigned cases in Winnebago County. She is an active member of the Illinois Judges Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and she is a member and past president of the Winnebago County Bar Association.

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