

NEWS RELEASE  
Office of the Chief Judge  
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-For Public Release-

### **Lawyer in the Library: March 2026 Dates Announced for the First Judicial Circuit**

Each month at local public libraries in the First Judicial Circuit, volunteer attorneys work to help self-represented litigants through the Lawyer in the Library program. With several locations across the Southern Illinois region, free legal advice is available nearby.

The Lawyer in the Library program provides patrons needing help with a legal issue the opportunity for a private, one-on-one session with an attorney for up to 20-minutes to receive advice or help with legal documents. There is no fee and pre-registration is required at most locations. On the date of your session, check in at the library registration desk and bring any paperwork pertaining to your legal question or situation. This program may be limited to one visit per patron.

For more information about the program, or to pre-register to speak to an attorney, you may call one of the following participating libraries:

- Anna, IL – Stinson Memorial Public Library, 618-833-2521
  - Attorney Gene Turk – Thursday, March 26, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- Carbondale, IL – Carbondale Public Library, 618-457-0354
  - Attorney Gene Turk – Wednesday, March 18, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Cairo, IL – Cairo Public Library, 618-734-1840
  - Attorney Joseph Tondini – Wednesday, March 11, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Carterville, IL – Anne West Lindsey District Library, 618-985-3298
  - Attorney Winter Campanella – Monday, March 30, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Eldorado, IL – Eldorado Memorial Library, 618-273-4402
  - Attorney Julian Valdes – The next quarterly session will be scheduled soon.
- Galatia, IL – Galatia Public Library, 618-268-9200
  - Attorney Julian Valdes – The next quarterly session will be scheduled soon.
- Golconda, IL – Golconda Public Library, 618-683-6531
  - Attorney Joseph Tondini – The next quarterly session is scheduled in April.
- Harrisburg, IL – Harrisburg District Library, 618-253-7455
  - Attorney Julian Valdes – Tuesday, March 17, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

- Herrin, IL – Herrin City Library, 618-942-6109
  - Attorney Julian Valdes – Thursday, March 12, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Marion, IL – Marion Carnegie Library, 618-993-5935
  - Attorney Roderick Throgmorton – Tuesday, March 10, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Metropolis, IL – Metropolis Public Library, 618-524-4312
  - Attorney Joseph Tondini – Wednesday, March 18, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Mounds, IL – Mounds Public Library, 618-745-6610
  - Attorney Kacey Eisenhauer – The next quarterly session will be scheduled soon.
- Olive Branch, IL – Dodge Memorial Public Library, 618-776-9200
  - Attorney Julian Valdes – The next quarterly session will be scheduled soon.
- Vienna, IL – Vienna Carnegie Public Library, 618-658-5051
  - Attorney Kacey Eisenhauer – The next quarterly session will be scheduled soon.

Thank you to the following for their support of this program: Chief Circuit Judge William J. Thurston, all First Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks, Volunteer Attorneys, Library Directors, Library Program Coordinators, and other library staff members.

Each *Lawyer in the Library* program is initially launched with an Access to Justice Improvement Grant (ATJ Grant) funding through the Access to Justice Division, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. The programs continue with each Volunteer Attorney coordinating with the Library and Brenda Sprague, Executive Assistant to the Chief Circuit Judge/ATJ Improvement Grant Coordinator.

<https://firstcircuitil.org/self-represented-litigants/>