

Hon. Marian E. Perkins
Circuit Court Judge of Cook County

Marian E. Perkins is a native of Chicago, veteran Illinois attorney, past president of the Cook County Bar Association, and Chicago Defender “*Women of Excellence*” award recipient for outstanding service to the community. She was unanimously appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to serve as a Circuit Court Judge of Cook County on July 13, 2017. Judge Perkins was later elected as a Circuit Court Judge of Cook County from the 5th Judicial Subcircuit during the Illinois general elections on November 6, 2018.

Marian is a graduate of Howard University, where she was a business major, recipient of a four-year academic Gulf Oil Corporation Scholarship and member of the Dean’s List and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., A Public Service Sorority. Marian earned her law degree from Howard University School of Law where she was a Law Clerk with the firm of Amram & Hahn and a Legislative Intern Capitol Hill for the Washington, D.C. Office of the City of Chicago.

Judge Perkins was an experienced trial lawyer before becoming a judge. During her career, she has served in the roles of both defense attorney and prosecutor. Marian is a former Assistant Appellate Defender of Illinois, Assistant State’s Attorney of Cook County, Senior Trial Supervisor in the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office, and Staff Attorney with the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation – Health-Related Prosecutions Bureau. In private practice, in her own law firm, Marian was the lead counsel in civil and criminal cases not only in the Circuit Court of Cook County but also DuPage County, and Kendall County in the state of Illinois and Shelby County in Memphis, Tennessee.

Judge Perkins is currently assigned to the Chancery Division/ Mortgage Foreclosure Section of the Circuit Court of Cook County where she presides over cases involving residential and commercial mortgage foreclosure, the appointment of receivers, and related matters on her court call. Her court provides free or low-cost legal resources and housing counseling information to self-represented litigants. She is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association (“ISBA”) Real Estate Law Section Council, Chicago Bar Association - Real Property Law Committee, and American Bar Association (“ABA”) Real Property, Trusts & Estates Section.

Judge Perkins serves as a certified “New Judge” judicial mentor and law student mentor. A proponent of legal education and judicial education, Judge Perkins is a faculty member with the Illinois Judicial College – Judicial Education Conference, and Chair of the Judicial Education Committee of the National Association of Women Judges for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 bar years.

Marian is and has been committed to service in the community and profession, for many years, including, as a volunteer with Lawyers “Lend-A-Hand-to-Youth. She is a frequent panelist at community forums. Marian is a member of the Illinois Judges Association (“IJA”) – “Judges in the Classroom” Program, Illinois Judicial Council, - Judicial Extern Program and National Bar Association – Judicial Council, and a board of director’s member of the ABA- Judicial Division.