

Honorable Donald D. Bernardi

Judge Bernardi is a graduate of Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois (B.A. in Philosophy 1973) and Western New England University School of Law (J.D. 1978) Springfield, Massachusetts. He was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1978, in the U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois in 1980 and the United States Supreme Court in 1985. He served as Assistant State's Attorney of Livingston County from 1978 to 1982 and as State's Attorney from 1982 to 1991 when he became an Associate Judge for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. Judge Bernardi was elected as a Circuit Judge in November 1996, and retained in 2006. He retired from the Bench in December 2008.

Judge Bernardi is currently a lecturer in the Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State University teaching Investigative techniques for paralegals. Judge Bernardi has authored a Bench book entitled "Illinois Judicial Bench book on Capital Cases" for the Illinois Supreme Court. He is a current member of the Illinois State Bar Association, and the Illinois Judges Association.

Judge Bernardi was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to be on the faculty of numerous Judicial Seminars. These include: the New Judge Seminar '06-'12, Education Conference '06, '08, '10, '12, and Capital Cases Seminar '05-'08. The lecture topics have included: *Selected Issues in Sentencing*, *DUI Offenders in State Court*, *The Anatomy of a Criminal Trial*, *Hearsay and Crawford v. Washington*, and *Guilty Pleas and Sentencing*.

Judge Bernardi lives in Normal and is married to Joan, they have three children, Leah, Caroline, and Daniel.