

Judge Rebecca Simmons Foley was appointed an Associate Circuit Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit in 2004 after practicing law for eight years in McLean County. She was elected Circuit Judge in 2012.

She is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association, Illinois Judges' Association and McLean County Bar Association, and serves as co-chair of its annual Law Day celebration.

In 2008, Judge Foley helped to establish a Small Claims Mediation Program for self-represented litigants in McLean County. The program assists persons without legal representation with resolving their court cases outside of court. It is believed to be the first of its kind in the state, as it utilizes non-lawyers as well as lawyers as mediators.

Judge Foley helped establish Recovery Court, a problem-solving court for persons with mental illness or co-occurring disorders involved in the criminal justice system, which began operating in 2010. She was its presiding judge from 2010-2014.

She has a Bachelor of Science in News-Editorial Journalism from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and received her Juris Doctor from the DePaul University College of Law. She is currently assigned to hear civil, probate, miscellaneous remedy and mental health cases in McLean County.