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CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

From the War-Room to the Bench: Navigating AI in the New Legal Frontier

Hon. Thaddeus J. Wilson

Justice / Appellate Court of Illinois

Justice Thaddeus L. Wilson was appointed to the bench by the Illinois Supreme Court as a Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court on February 6, 2026. Prior to that he was a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, assigned to the Chancery Division – General Section. Before that, he was assigned to the Criminal Division, where he served as a supervising judge responsible for handling administrative motions and resources for a team of judges in addition to hearing his own felony trial call.

In 2021, Judge Wilson was appointed to the newly formed Court Technology Modernization Steering Committee of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. The committee was tasked with assessing the current state of court technology in each of the 24 circuit courts and providing recommendations for improvement and change.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Wilson was the managing attorney of the Law Office of Brookins & Wilson (*A Partnership of Professional Corporations*). He practiced in the areas of personal injury, criminal defense, general civil litigation, civil rights/police misconduct, bankruptcy, foreclosure, and election law. As part of this multifaceted litigation practice, he represented corporations, banks, municipalities, insurance companies, and individuals.

In 1989, he received his Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of Notre Dame in Management of Information Systems and a double major in Philosophy. Upon graduating, he moved to Chicago, Illinois, to work as a computer programmer and systems analyst for Joseph T. Ryerson & Son. Judge Wilson received his law degree from Northern Illinois University College of Law in 1994.