

Barbara Crowder

Circuit Judge

Judge Barbara Crowder earned both her undergraduate degree (B.A. with Distinction in Speech Communication, 1978) and law degree (J.D. 1981) from the University of Illinois. She then served as an Assistant State's Attorney in Madison County before entering private practice in 1985 in Madison County's first all-woman law firm. Judge Crowder also served as a part-time Special Public Defender for Madison County for several years. She was appointed an Associate Judge in January 1999 and was then elected a Circuit Judge in 2006 and retained in 2012. Judge Crowder will retire from the bench effective December 3, 2018.

Judge Crowder is the Third Vice-President of the Illinois Judges Association and served for 12 years on its Board of Directors. Judge Crowder is a Past President of the Illinois Judges Foundation and is currently a member of its Board of Directors. She has been a member of the Special Supreme Court Child Custody Committee since it was formed in 2002 and served as a member of an Access to Justice subcommittee that created civil procedure forms that are approved statewide. She also served as an editor of the Illinois Judicial Benchbook on Civil Law and Procedure issued by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts and has been a Judicial Education conference speaker. She is the current chair of the Illinois State Bar Association's Civil Practice and Procedure Section Council and is a member of the ISBA Privacy and Information Security Law section council, Judge Crowder is a past chair of the Illinois State Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services, the Family Law Section Council, and the Bench & Bar Section Council.

Judge Barb Crowder has been a Chair of the 3rd Circuit Family Violence Prevention Council since 1999 and Chair of the 3rd Circuit Pro Bono Committee since it was formed in 2011. She is a member of the Madison County Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. Judge Barb Crowder is married to attorney Larry Taliana. Their family includes sons Paul, Benjamin, Robert (spouse Erica), and Rob and Erica's children (and Judge Crowder and Larry's grandchildren), Joshua and Maya. She is also an avid Cardinals fan.