

STATEMENT OF G. A. FINCH CONCERNING HIS NOMINATION TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF COOK COUNTY
EMPLOYEE APPEALS BOARD

Good Morning Chairman Suffredin and Commissioners. I am grateful for the opportunity to present my credentials and qualifications to you for confirmation of my appointment to the Employee Appeals Board of Cook County.

As you know the Board of Commissioners created the Employee Appeals Board to fulfill two important duties: 1) to hear all appeals by any career service employee not represented by a union, of discharge, demotion, or suspension for a period of more than ten days upon request of the employee; and 2) to prepare special reports or to otherwise give advice on human resource issues as requested by the President of the County Board or by the Chief of Human Resources.

The first duty involves understanding due process and sufficiency of evidence concerning a particular disciplinary matter. As a litigator, as an employment attorney, and as a former Illinois Human Rights Commissioner, I have become well versed in the conduct of legally sufficient hearings concerning employment matters.

The second duty involves preparing special reports or advising the Cook County Board President or the Chief of Human Resource on human resource issues. In my law practice I routinely advise clients on human resource issues and draft documents analyzing employment related issues. In my recent position as Chief of Staff to Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, I have had the honor and unique privilege of advising both her and the Chief of Human Resources on various matters.

My professional biography reveals my love of public service and my consistent desire to serve and contribute, even if only on a part time basis.

I believe I possess the rectitude, judicial temperament, experience, and expertise to provide employees a thorough, impartial hearing while vindicating Cook County government's interest in effecting appropriate disciplinary actions.

I hope I have an opportunity to continue to serve the taxpayers of Cook County.

I thank you Commissioners for your time today and your service to the citizens of Cook County.