

## Court of Claims Judges

The Illinois Court of Claims has exclusive jurisdiction to hear all claims regarding any contract with the State of Illinois; torts committed by agents of the state; time unjustly served by innocent persons in Illinois prisons; torts committed by escaped inmates of state-controlled institutions; and the recovery of funds deposited with the state pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Act. The Court of Claims administers assistance programs to compensate families of law enforcement officers, firefighters and military personnel killed in the line of duty. The court also pays awards to innocent victims of violent crimes as authorized by the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

The Illinois Court of Claims falls under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Secretary of State, who serves as the ex-officio clerk of the court.



**Robert J. Sprague**  
Chief Justice  
Appointed 2003



**Peter J. Birnbaum**  
Appointed 2004



**Mary Patricia Burns**  
Appointed 2009



**Norma F. Jann**  
Appointed 1991



**James L. Kaplan**  
Appointed 2005



**Robert J. Steffen**  
Appointed 2004



**Donald J. Storino**  
Appointed 2004