

Office of the State Appellate Defender

**Board of Commissioners
Current Board Members and their Predecessors**

June 2026

Appointed by:	Current Board Member	Predecessor
Governor	Justice James R. Epstein (Ret.)	Thomas M. Breen
1st District Appellate Court	Justice Bertina E. Lampkin	Justice Thomas E. Hoffman
2nd District Appellate Court	Jeff York	Justice R. Peter Grometer (Ret.)
3rd District Appellate Court	Jaya Varghese	Judge James Brusatte (Ret.)
4th District Appellate Court	Kevin Lowe	Michelle Sanders
5th District Appellate Court	Justice Milton S. Wharton	Justice James K. Donovan (Ret.)
Illinois Supreme Court	Hon. Lester W. Finkle	Carol A. Brook
Illinois Supreme Court from a panel of 3 nominees from the Illinois State Bar Association	Evan S. Bruno	J. William Lucco
Governor from a panel of 3 nominees from the Illinois Public Defender Association	Sharone R. Mitchell Jr.	Hon. Abishi C. Cunningham, Jr. (Ret.)