

My name is Colleen Gorman, and I am running for the position of Executive at Large. Currently, I am assigned to the Felony Rotation at Markham. My preceding assignments include Child Protection, First Municipal and Felony Trial at 26th and California.

Prior to being hired by the Public Defender's Office, I began my career as an attorney for the Speaker of the House in Springfield, drafting bills and shepherding them through the legislative process. The negotiating skills I acquired through this experience provide me with a solid background for working with management and the County Board.

When I started at our Office, over 9 years ago, I immediately became active in our Union and trained as a Steward within my first few months. I have had continued participation with the union throughout my career.

I believe it is important for new and different people to work in leadership positions in order to bring fresh perspectives into our office. I believe that I can bring new, creative "outside the box" ideas that will further strengthen our Union and Office.

One of my priorities, if elected would be to find ways to have our Union get more people involved. I would like to set up more local Union meetings – at different sites, more out-of-office gatherings – near different sites, and more committees. If Union members want to be more involved, in whatever capacity fits with their life, it should be not only allowed, but encouraged.

If elected, I will be a resource for members to come to for help finding answers on issues such as leaves of absence, union benefits, grievance policy and others. I will have an open door policy and if I don't know the answer I will find it.

Please vote for Colleen Gorman for Executive at Large!!