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## Professor Marie Monahan: A Remembrance, 37 J. Marshall L. Rev. xix (2003)

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## PROFESSOR MARIE MONAHAN: A REMEMBRANCE

PROFESSOR JULIE SPANBAUER

Professor Monahan joined The John Marshall Law School faculty in 1989, and served as Director of the Judicial Externship Program. She also taught Contract Law and Lawyering Skills. Professor Monahan earned her J.D. degree at DePaul University College of Law where she also was a member of the law review. Before attending law school, Professor Monahan pursued a Ph.D. in the Classics at Northwestern University. She also held both an undergraduate and graduate degree in the Classics from the State University of New York at Buffalo. During law school, she cultivated her strong academic interests by teaching various courses at Northwestern University, including Beginning and Intermediate Latin, Political Thought in Ancient Greece and Rome, Greek and Roman Mythology, and Greek and Latin Etymology.

Professor Monahan began her legal career as a law clerk to the late Illinois Appellate Court Judge, William S. White. In 1983, she joined the international law firm of Baker & McKenzie as the first woman lawyer hired in the firm's Chicago litigation department. In 1988, Professor Monahan left Baker & McKenzie to combine her strong interest in teaching with her experience as a lawyer. She was appointed to the position of a Visiting Professor at Northern Illinois University College of Law.

When Professor Monahan joined the John Marshall faculty a year later, she brought with her a unique blend of practical legal experience combined with a strong background in the Classics and experience teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate level. During her fifteen-year career at John Marshall, she remained active in the legal community and her interest in pursuing justice was often reflected in her service to the bench and bar. From 1990 until 1995, Professor Monahan served as an arbitrator for the Circuit Court of Cook County Mandatory Arbitration Project. In 1993, she assumed additional responsibilities by serving for five years as a member of the Hearing Panel and as an Investigator for the Judicial Evaluation Committee of the Chicago Bar Association. Beginning in 1996, she was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to serve as a Hearing Officer on the Hearing Board of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC).

John Marshall students were enriched by the depth of experience Professor Monahan brought to the classroom. As

Director of the Judicial Externship Program, Professor Monahan invoked her experience as a litigator and her knowledge of the legal system to place students as externs with state and federal judges. She was held in the highest regard by members of the judiciary and over a fifteen-year period was able to launch the careers of numerous students by securing their employment as judicial law clerks after graduation. She infused her classroom with humor. Professor Monahan's colleagues at the John Marshall Law School remember her with great admiration. Professor Monahan made a difference in the lives of her students and her colleagues. She was a loyal, supportive wife, mother, friend, and colleague. She will be dearly missed.