# Lake Forest for Transparency



These are various Interpretations of our Bylaws regarding voting from Previous Caucus Committees:

### You and I. That's what the Lake Forest Caucus is. Every registered voter of us.

We, actively or passively, are the Caucus, the structured system we've used formally since 1954 to select candidates for elective and appointive offices.

The method grew from the ideas of residents who wanted a well-governed alty, From its informal beginnings more than half a century ago to today's organized, thorough, nonpartisan process, the Caucus has held to this tenet: Search out the best condicates for city offices, boards and commissions.

What the Caucus looks for in our city's leadership is what we all want. Stability, integrity, rationality, fiscal cognizance. Men and women who act and react with responsibility as well as responsiveness. People of commitment who are unafaid to speak out yet willing to compromise. Leaders who can view our town's progress and problems with vision not illusion. Those who are willing and able to give the time, without compensation, to tend to our city's business.

After careful consideration, the Caucus chooses, as it has this year, the candidates for mayor and aldermen it deems to be the best qualified, most reasonable leaders for our city.

Finding the candidates is the job of the Committee on Candidates, the core group of the Caucus. The Committee is 34 men and women, eight from each of our four wards plus chairman and vice chairman.

Doctor, lawyer, merchant, health care chief; banker, teacher, realtor, homemaker — his year the 18 men and 16 women bring to their Committee work knowledge and judgment gamered from these and more professions and from extensive personal backgrounds. One has lived here two years, another 56, average residency is 21 years. The average age of Committee members is 47, with the range from 34 to 56, On the average, each is active in five additional community organizations.

This diverse group, a cross-section of the community, spent months asking incumbent office holders to define their jobs, looking for men and women in each ward, interviewing and rating prospectiv candidates.

This year, after narrowing down their search and checking general qualifications, the Committee interviewed three mayoral prospects. Each was questioned on individual perception and philosophy of the job. Each was asked to detail problems and pressures facing Lake Forest now and In the foreseable future. Each was quizzed on any possible conflict of interest which could interfere with job performance, judgment and decision-making.

Through this process Gerhard Seldel was selected as the candidate for mayor. He is the candidate of the Caucus. The Committee on Candidates only proposed Seldel for the mayoral job; the Caucus members, the registered voters

the mayoral job; the Caucus members, the registered voters who were there, slated him at the January 25 annual meeting.

The same due process of questions, answers, discussion and analysis brought the Committee to these conclusions: That three incumbent aldermen — Stanleigh McDonald, Second Ward; James Altourian, Third Ward; and Halbert Gillette, Fourth Ward — should be proposed for second two-yearterms. That L. Robert Pasquesi should be presented to the Caucus as the candidate for alderman of the First Ward.

On April 7 these five men will run as candidates of the Community Citizens Party. (The party name, adopted at the Caucus annual meeting, changes yearly. Under state election laws, this annual name change eliminates costly and time-consuming primaries or conventions.)

For appointees to boards and commissions, the Committee follows a similar procedure, submitting to the mayor a minimum of two nominees for each post. The mayor has three attematives: he may appoint persons recommended by the Committee; he may select individuals suggested by other residents; he may name persons of his own choosing.

City government cannot be run on the squeaky-wheelgets-the-grease principle. City government needs leaders who can make executive and legislative decisions with competence and fairness.

The mayor and aldermen do not have the option of ploking and choosing issues. They must deal with all issues rationally. They can please all of us some of the time and some of us all of the time. But it would be naive to think that they can please all of us all of the time. That impossibility is challenge the City Council must resolve with balance.

No dynasties are built through our Caucus system or on our City Council. Four-year terms for members of the Committee on Candidates, a 25 per cent turnover every year, eliminate any power base. Traditionally, but not necessarily, the mayor serves three one-year terms and aldermen three two-year terms, hardly enough time for ambition and greed to override essential good for the city.

Under our Caucus system there are no patronage jabs, no bartered votes, no curried favors. National party affiliation is set aside when it comes to running local government.

Under a two-party system, we would lose many highly-qualified individuals who are willing to give their time and to use their extensive backgrounds and experience in serving our community ona non-political basis.

City government involves today's decisions for today and tomorrow. Lake Forest is an entity which spans 15.4 square miles and houses 16,802 of us. We live and must exist cooperatively in a wider world that, for our town, includes four townships, two school districts, two county districts. It state and two federal congressional districts. It is a difficult but important task for our city government to retain and preserve our community identity in the midst of these governmental backs and agencies.

Our city administration is a business with a \$6.5 million operating budget, professionally directed day-to-day by our city manager and his staff. (The total budget including capital improvements and clebt service is \$8.2 million.) Policies, however, are set by the Council we elect. (Lake Forest adopted the city manager system by referendum; our city government has been administered by this system since 1956.)

What we get for what we spend on running our city is better than any of our neighboring communities. Comparably, our tax rate is favorable. Our dty services are well above average. Mareover, with the exception of the mayor's annual \$10 stipend, our elected and appointed city officials give of their time and talent.

The Caucus is a democratic system. Like all democratic systems, it will not work without broad-based citizen involvement. The Caucus is not infallible. But its track record is good.

If we want more from our elected city officials or from our Caucus, let's say so. Let's talk to each other. But let us not cripple a system that historically and currently gives us sound, cost-effective city government.

Lets' get involved. Above all, let's vote on April 7. Let's care enough to keep Lake Forest special.



about the Lake Forest Caucus 1

These are some of the people who are or have been actively involved in the Caucus. If you want an appraisal of the role the Caucus has played in maintaining good government through its candidate selection process, call one of them. You'll get honest answers from people who have cared enough to be involved in a system that works well.

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Lake Forest Caucus P. O. Box 108 Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

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#### THE LAKE FOREST CAUCUS

P.O. BOX 108 LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS 60045

June 14, 1988

Ms. Melanie Rummel Chairman League of Women Voters Study Committee League of Women Voters of Lake Forest Gorton Community Center 400 East Illinois Road Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Dear Ms. Rummel:

On behalf of the Lake Forest Caucus, I wish to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for the recommendations from the League of Women Voters regarding the Lake Forest Caucus system. It is my intent to share these recommendations with the other members of the Lake Forest Caucus Executive Committee as well as the Committee on Candidates. Once they have been distributed, I will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss them and to select a few members of that group to begin additional dialogue with the League of Women Voters on these recommendations.

We welcome the interest of the League of Women Voters in the Caucus system and I thank you very much for the League's willingness to pursue discussion of their recommendations and to use this opportunity to enhance the dialogue between our mutual organizations who share a common interest in preserving quality government in Lake Forest.

Very truly yours,

Steven L. Seiler President

SLS:cjk

cc: Executive Committee Lake Forest Caucus

# THE LAKE FOREST CAUCUS



Working Together for Good Local Government

## What City positions does the Caucus find candidates for?

Each year the Caucus recommends candidates for nomination for Mayor and for one Alderman from each of the four wards. Under Caucus policy, as stated in the by-laws, a candidate is recommended by the Caucus for no more than three one-year terms as Mayor or three two-year terms as Alderman.

The Caucus also recommends candidates to fill the elected positions of City Marshal and Collector, City Treasurer, and City Supervisor. Generally, the Caucus recommends candidates for these honorary positions for no more than three one-year terms.

At the Annual Meeting, the Committee on Candidates presents its slate for nomination to these elected positions. Upon approval by voters attending the Annual Meeting, candidate names are then petitioned to be placed on the municipal ballot.

District 115 High School Board members are also recommended for nomination by the Caucus at an Interim Meeting held every other summer. Lake Forest traditionally has four representatives on the seven-member board. The other three are from the Lake Bluff and Knollwood areas, also served by the district. Maximum Caucus recommendation is for two four-year terms.

The Caucus is also responsible for making recommendations to the Mayor for appointments to these City boards and commissions:

Plan Commission Building Review Board Zoning Board of Appeals District 67 Board of Education (Grades K through 8)

Recreation Board Library Board Cemetery Board Board of Trustees -Police Pension Fund

# How does the Caucus find qualified candidates?

Each fall the Committee on Candidates holds a citywide Search for Candidates meeting to publicly announce the positions to be filled for the coming year and to encourage resident participation in the search for qualified candidates.

This is the time to indicate your own interest in a City position or to submit the names of those you consider well qualified. This is also the time to meet members of the Caucus Committees and representatives of Lake Forest's government.

All prospective candidates are asked to complete a personal data sheet prior to Committee consideration. Forms are available at the Search for Candidates meeting or from any member of the Committee on Candidates. When data sheets are received, prospective candidates are contacted by their ward chairman.

Ward committees meet to interview candidates in depth, outlining the duties of the position to be filled, and the qualifications sought. They attempt to find the best fit, as any good personnel committee would do. Ward recommendations are presented to the entire Committee on Candidates.

Candidates for Mayor, Aldermen, Plan Commission, and District 115 High School Board of Education are interviewed by the Committee on Candidates as a whole. The interview process is an important element in finding the most qualified candidates.

The Caucus generally recommends to the Mayor two or three candidates for each board or commission opening. While the Mayor has the prerogative of appointing someone other than a Caucus-recommended candidate, he relies on the Caucus to find qualified candidates; with very few exceptions, the candidates recommended by the Caucus are appointed.





# s the Caucus system democratic?

It's not a new idea. Nor is it unique to Lake Forest. It dates back to the town meetings of the American colonists and is used in some form or another by many small municipalities.

The Caucus peer group candidate review/recommendation system is a democratic process. No political hierarchy dictates candidate selection.

A broad base of public participation and involvement is also an expression of democracy in action. The Caucus policy of deliberate turnover for both City positions and Caucus committees helps to insure such a base.

The Caucus does offer only one choice on the ballot. But the Caucus-sponsored names on the ballot are there as a result of a democratic process. And you do have a voice in that process. Your input will be heard, your influence will be felt if you participate at the selection level. If you help to identify qualified candidates. If you get involved.

# What can you do if you disagree with the Caucus and its candidates?

You have the right to disagree. And you have several options.

All or part of the slate can be rejected by majority vote at the Annual Meeting. The Committee on Candidates is then charged with presenting a new slate as soon as possible. You can then present candidates for Committee consideration.

You can convene your own party and place your own slate on the ballot by petition. You can file as an independent candidate yourself or support an independent candidate and petition for ballot inclusion.

You may conduct a write-in campaign for yourself or other candidates. However, the Caucus discourages write-in campaigns, believing that all voters have the right to know when and why disagreement exists.



# **D**oes the Caucus system work?

Yes. And it works well for Lake Forest. The Caucus began informally in the 1920's and has been a structured organization since 1954. It has provided City government with highly talented, experienced, knowledgeable, dedicated people. The Caucus eliminates the politicking of a partisan system.

Its non-partisan stance is one reason that the Caucus works well. It does not require its candidates to take positions on issues or problems prior to recommendation or nomination. Rather, the Caucus looks for candidates who are capable of dealing with issues in the best interests of the entire community.

There is no dynasty building in the Caucus system. No patronage. No cronyism. Caucus-recommended candidates are free to exercise independent judgment and to use their abilities to the best advantage of the City as a whole.

The Caucus actively supports its candidates for elected offices each year. The Caucus, however, applies no pressures before or after elections and does not attempt to influence conduct while in office.

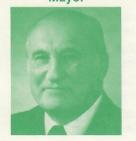
The nature of the City and the lifestyle of Lake Forest residents would deter many qualified candidates from public service if partisan politics were the norm here.

The Caucus system is not infallible. Its collective judgment depends on the individuals who participate. But its track record over the years is exceptional. It is the reason that Lake Forest benefits from consistently high-quality City government.



# **GOOD GOVERNMENT NEEDS GOOD PEOPLE.**

Gerhard E. SEIDEL Mayor



For second one-year term. Senior partner in Peterson, Ross, Schloerb and Seidel law firm. President and chairman of board of Walther Memorial Hospital. Third Ward Alderman 1973-79. B.A. and law degrees from Columbia. Resident for 16 years.

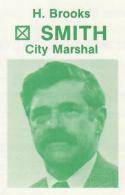
#### John J. SHERIDAN Alderman, Fourth Ward



For third two-year term. Executive vice president of L. J. Sheridan & Co., real estate brokerage and management. Director of Arthur Welby Hall Residential Treatment Center for emotionally disturbed children; director of Civic Federation of Chicago. Degrees from Georgetown and DePaul Universities. Resident for 24 years. John E. McGOVERN, Jr. Alderman, First Ward



For third two-year term. Partner in Wilson and McIlvaine law firm. Trustee of Lake Forest College, director of Ravinia Festival Assoc. and Chicago Heart Assoc. Degrees from Princeton and Harvard Law School. Resident for 19 years.



For fourth one-year term. Owner, Smith's Men's Store. Member, Gorton Community Center Commission. Former member of Plan Commission and Building Review Board. Lake Forest College graduate. Life-long resident.



# **ELECT THIS TEAM FOR LAKE FOREST.**

John L. HENNESSY Alderman, Second Ward



For third two-year term. Senior partner-retired of Arthur Andersen & Co. Chairman Barat College board of trustees, director of Catholic Charities. CPA with degrees from Boston College and Harvard. Resident for 17 years.

# Milton W. SWANTON City Supervisor

For first one-year term. Retired from Harris Trust and Savings Bank. Former member, Cemetery Commission. Member, Lake County Council for Seniors; active in local senior citizens groups. Lake Forest College graduate. Life-long resident.

**1982 — Caucus-Supported** LOT - TUESDAY, MARCH 16 Sidney H. PAIGE
Alderman, Third Ward



For first two-year term. Vice president of human resources for Illinois Tool Works, Inc. Member and chairman of Board of Fire and Police Commissioners for 7 years. Senior warden, Church of the Holy Spirit. Degrees from Amherst College and Harvard Law School. Resident for 11 ½ years.





For first one-year term. Manager, Illinois Bell Telephone Company. First Ward Alderman 1962-68. Past Commander American Legion Post 264; Lake Forest Day chairman. Ruling elder, First Presbyterian Church. Lake Forest College graduate. Resident for 40 years.

# WHERE TO VOTE

Ask For Lake Forest City Ballot

# FIRST WARD PRECINCTS

Shields 207

Shields 208

Shields 209

Shields 211

SECOND WARD PRECINCTS Shields 210

Deerfield 060,061

West Deerfield 351, 352

THIRD WARD PRECINCTS Shields 202, 203, 204, 205, and 206

FOURTH WARD PRECINCTS West Deerfield 348, 349

West Deerfield 351, 252

Vernon 220

Lake Forest High School 1285 N. McKinley Winter Club 956 N. Sheridan Road

Gorton Community Center 400 E. Illinois Road Lake Forest College

Sports Center, South Campus

Lake Forest College Sports Center, South Campus Barat College, Drake Theatre 700 E. Westleigh Road Cherokee School 475 E. Cherokee Road

Deer Path School 95 W. Deerpath

Everett School 1111 Lawrence

Cherokee School 475 E. Cherokee Road Daniel Wright Junior High School 1370 Riverwoods Road

# **GOOD GOVERNMENT NEEDS GOOD PEOPLE**

VOTE LAKE FOREST PARTY 1982 — CAUCUS-SUPPORTED Punch Number 7 on Your City Ballot TUESDAY, MARCH 16 — Polls Open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Copy of candidates' reports are (or will be) on file and available for purchase from Lake County Clerk, Waukegan, IL.

CAR-RT BULK RATE U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 128 Lake Forest, IL

Lake Forest, IL 60045 P.O. Box 108 P.O. Box 108

Sound judgment. Rational decisions. Effective leadership. Informed attitudes. Integrity, dedication, willingness to work. Proven civic experience. Prudent budgeting, sensible spending. Conern for your concerns.

## Isn't this what you expect from your city government?

## **LAKE FOREST CAUCUS** NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus will be held on Sunday, December 13, 1981, at 3:30 p.m. at Deerpath School Auditorium, 95 W. Deerpath, Lake Forest.

All registered voters in Lake Forest are members of the Lake Forest Caucus and should attend. Candidates for elective offices, sought and interviewed by the Committee on Candidates, will be nominated to stand for election on March 16, 1982.

Amendments in and changes to the Rules of the Lake Forest Caucus will be presented, discussed, and voted upon. The Rules, incorporating all suggested amendments, are printed here. Specific changes will be pointed out at the Annual Meeting.

#### **RULES OF THE LAKE FOREST CAUCUS**

(The Rules of the Lake Forest Caucus were adopted in 1964 and amended at the 1976 Annual Meeting; Rules as printed here are subject to a vote at the 1981 Annual Meeting.)

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the Lake Forest Caucus is to promote good representative government.

#### FUNCTION

FUNCTION 2. The function of the Lake Forest Caucus is to nominate candidates for elec-tive offices of the City of Lake Forest and to elect the Committee on Candidates and the Executive Committee. The Lake Forest Caucus shall also nominate can-didates ferm Lake Forest for the hord of didates from Lake Forest for the board of Lake Forest Community High School District No. 115.

MEMBERSHIP 3. All registered voters in the City of Lake Forest are members of the Lake Forest Caucus. Members attending the Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus are eligible to vote on all matters properly brought before the Annual Meeting. properly Meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING. 4. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to receive and act upon the reports of the Committee on Candidates; to receive the

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No member, after serving a full four-year term, may succeed himself, except that a member selected to serve one year be Vice Chairman of the Committee on Candidates at the conculsion of his four(5) years on the Committee on Candidates. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Candidates to recommend to the Lake Forest Caucus at the Annual Meeting can-didates for elective offices.

The Committee on Candidates shall also recommend candidates to the Mayor for each appointment to be made to the Ci-ty boards and commissions. The Commit-tee on Candidates shall ascertain from the voters in their respective precincts the best qualified and most representative candidates.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 7. The Executive Committee shall con-sist of six (6) members who shall be citizens who have rendered the City valuable service and have interested themselves in the affairs of the communi-ty. Each member shall serve a five-year term with one (1) member being replaced each year. The terms of members may be classified or reclassified to accomplish this. this.

this. A person elected to fill an unexpired term shall serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus at which time he/she will be eligible for elec-

PUBLIC OPINION AND All shall be the responsibility of the Kaceutive Committee to undertake a city-vide, objective survey to determine at-undertaken no less than every three (3) vears or in the final term of an incumbent Marking and the the responsibility of the Ex-tingent to the gurposes, functions, and undertakelings of the purposes, functions, and undertakelings of the survey is to be provide the purposes. Functions, and undertakelings of the survey is the survey of the survey of the survey is to be provide the purposes. Functions, and undertakelings of the survey of the survey

#### POLICY ON TENLRE

POLICY ON TEXTRE OF PUBLIC OFFICERS 10. It is the policy of the Lake Forest Caucus to recommend a limit to the time of consecutive service in various offices of the City as follows:

Elective Offices::

Mayor--Not more than three (3) one-year

terms. Aldermen--Not more than three (3) two-

year terms. Statutory City Officers--In general, not more than three (3) one-year terms, except as. in the iudgment of the Committee on

financial reports of the Secretary-Treasurer; to receive the report, if any of the President; and to consider any amend-ments to the Rules of the Lake Forest Caucus submitted in accordance with these Rules. The Annual Meeting shall be held within fifteen (15) days prior to the first filing date for candidacy for City elective offices.

#### OFFICERS

5. A President and a Secretary-Treasurer of the Lake Forest Caucus shall be nominated by the Committee on Can-didates from the membership of the Executive Committee and elected at each An-nual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus to serve for the succeeding year. The Presi-dent of the Lake Forest Caucus shall chair the Executive Committee and be an ex of-ficio member of the Committee on Candidates and all committees appointed by the Lake Forest Caucus. The President and Secretary-Treasurer shall make all ar-rangements for the Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus and shall maintain and preserve the records of the Lake Forest Caucus.

#### COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATES

6. There shall be a Committee on Can-didates consisting of the President of the didates consisting of the President of the Lake Forest Caucus, ex officio, the Chair-man and Vice Chairman of the Committee on Candidates, and thirty-two (32) per-sons, eight (8) of whom shall be elected from each ward in the City. Each precinct year term may continue to serve on the Committee for such year and a member selected to serve one year as Chairman of the Committee on Candidates after the ex-piration of his four-year term and after serving as Vice Chairman, may serve on the Committee for such additional year as Chairman.

It shall be necessary for a person selected as Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee on Candidates to have previously been a member of the Commit-

tee. The Committee on Candidates shall nominate its successors on such Commit-tee and shall nominate its own Chairman each year, who shall in turn appoint a Subchairman for each ward. The Committee on Candidates shall also nominate its own Vice Chairman each year. It shall also nominate the persons to serve on the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Candidates shall ap-The Committee on Candidates shall ap-point a successor for any member of the Committee who is unable to complete a regular or special term of office, such suc-cessor to take office immediately upon ap-proval by the Committee. Each such suc-cessor shall serve until the next Annual cessor shall serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus, at which time he/she shall be eligible for election to serve a full four-term on the Committee. Likewise, each successor member should reside in the precinct represented insofar as possible. No per-son other than the Chairman and the Vice Chairman shall thus serve more than five

tion to serve a full five-year term on the Executive Committee

The terms of the members of the Ex ecutive Committee, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus, shall commence in the succeeding month of May when the new City ad-ministration takes office.

The President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Lake Forest Caucus, nominated and elected from the membership of the Executive Committee, shall serve no more than two (2) one-year terms in those offices.

The Executive Committee shall raise The Executive Committee shall raise funds for expenditures of the Lake Forest Caucus. To provide continuity in the func-tioning of the Lake Forest Caucus, the Ex-ecutive Committee shall serve in an ad-visory capacity to the Committee on Candidates

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS 8. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Lake Forest Caucus to keep on file with the Reference Department of the Lake Forest Library two (2) copies of those documents pertain-ies (a the cohortarity constraints of the of the ing to the substantive operations Ing to the substantive operations of the substantive operations of the substantive operations of a Member, Principles and Policies, Lake Forest and the caucus System) and the roster of members of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Candidates.

Candidates, extended length of service would be beneficial to the community. Appointive Offices:

Appointive Offices: In general, in making the selection of candidates for appointive offices, reasonable limitations on consecutive service of office holders shall be con-

#### OTHER COMMITTEES

11. The Lake Forest Caucus may ap-point ad hoc committees for special pur-AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS 12. No amendment(s) to the Rules of the Lake Forest Caucus shall be adopted unless the proposed amendment(s) shall have been filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Lake Forest Caucus thir-ty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Upon filing of a proposed amendment(s) with the Secretary-Treasurer, it shall be there of to all members of the Executive Committee and of the Committee on Can-didates who, in joint session, shall act

Committee and of the Committee on Can-didates who, in joint session, shall act upon the recommendations by a two-thirds vote of the members present. At shall subsequently be the respon-sfortily of the President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the Chairman of the Com-mittee on Candidates to report to the membership at the Annual Meeting the Committees' recommendation(s) as to the evenesed emedment(s). No amendment committees rendmential. No amendment shall be adopted by the Lake Forest Caucus unless two-third of the members present at the Annual Meeting shall vote in favor of such adoption

A copy of this notice is being mailed to every household in Lake Forest. The best current list available form the addressing firm is compiled to cover all single family and multiple family residential addresses. In order to provide accurate coverage of all street addresses, this list does not include individual residents' names. Your notice will be addressed to "Resident." Caucus leadership urges all registered voters to read the notice and to bring it to the Annual Meeting on December 13.



Residents who have questions concerning the Annual Meeting may write to Mrs. John W. Shields, Secretary- Treasurer, Lake Forest Caucus, P.O. Box 108, Lake Forest, Il. 60045

