

# 2024 FOREST PRESERVE EMPLOYEE CANDIDATE STATEMENT

FOR THE TRUSTEE ELECTION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 30, 2024

- **Candidate Name:** Lakeisha Marvel
- **Position Sought:** Forest Preserve Employee Trustee
- **Current Job Title:** Operations Manager, Forest Preserve District of Cook County
- **Total Years of Service:** 8 Years



## **Biographical Information: Lakeisha Darnice Marvel (LDM) for Forest Preserves Member Trustee**

I am honored to seek election as Forest Preserve Member Trustee for the Cook County Employees and Officers Annuity and Benefit Fund. As your sitting Trustee, and with over 25 years of experience in highly regulated government and educational institutions, I bring a wealth of knowledge and dedication to this role.

**Luminary, Decisive, Motivated (LDM)** My journey with the Forest Preserves of Cook County began in February 2016 as an Administrative Assistant II. Through commitment and hard work, I was promoted to the position of Operations Manager in December 2017, a role I still hold. Following a competitive interview process, the Retirement Board appointed me to fill the vacant Forest Preserve District Employee Member position. Since being sworn into office on September 7, 2023, by the late Karen Yarbrough, I hit the ground running and have worked diligently to learn about the Fund and to protect our financial future.

**Learned, Disciplined, Mastery (LDM)** I hold a B.A. in Political Science from Grambling State University and an MPA from Governors State University. My extensive background includes roles such as Associate Director of Learning Services/ADA 504 Coordinator, Associate Adjunct Professor, and Faculty Mentor at Colorado Technical University. Additionally, I served the State of Illinois in various capacities, including as Acting Assistant Local Office Administrator for the Illinois Department of Human Services.

**Leverage, Driven, Mighty (LDM)** My extensive experience in public institutions, commitment to interpreting policies, and a year of service as a Trustee uniquely position me to represent you effectively. I am passionate about learning, compassionate towards others, and dedicated to finding bright spots even in challenging situations.

If you are looking for a Trustee who will ensure that every decision reflects your best interests, values and keeps your voices at the **HEM**, please vote for **(LDM)** Lakeisha Darnice Marvel.