

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-20

22<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Temporary Order – Covid-19

FILED

NOV 24 2020

KATHERINE M. KEEFE  
MCHENRY CTY. CIR. CLK.

This administrative order is entered pursuant to the authority granted to Chief Judges of each circuit in the State of Illinois by the Illinois Supreme Court's Orders in M.R. 30370:

In re:

Illinois Courts Response to

COVID-19 Emergency

Dated May 20, 2020

**Whereas**, the Supreme Court has acknowledged the state of emergency declared by the Governor of the State of Illinois in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus and has issued a series of orders authorizing chief judges to enter such necessary orders to safely operate circuit courts; and

**Whereas**, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit by its Chief Judge recognizes the importance to take necessary action to protect its judges, staff, potential jurors, case parties, other judicial partners and the general public from the spread of Covid-19 and the Chief Judge finds there has been a resurgence of novel coronavirus (Covid-19) infections and hospitalizations in McHenry County since the entry of its prior orders. For good cause shown, due to the resurgence of Covid-19 and in the interests of the health and safety of all court users the Chief Judge deems it necessary to exercise his authority to allow and order the use of remote access for court proceedings in the family division; and

**Family Division**

**Therefore, It Is Hereby Ordered** effective December 1, 2020 and until further order of the Chief Judge, all pending matters and matters to be scheduled in courtrooms 359 (Judge Hansen), 360 (Judge Hirsch), 361 (Judge Facchini) and 365 (Judge Zalud) shall be heard remotely via Zoom. Please see the circuit clerk's website at <https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-a-i/circuit-clerk/virtual-courtroom-information> for remote access instructions.

**It Is Further Ordered** pleadings filed as an emergency under Local Rule 11.10 may be presented remotely or in person but litigants are strongly encouraged to appear remotely. Petitions for emergency orders of protection, stalking no contact orders and civil no contact orders are governed by Administrative Order 2020-17.

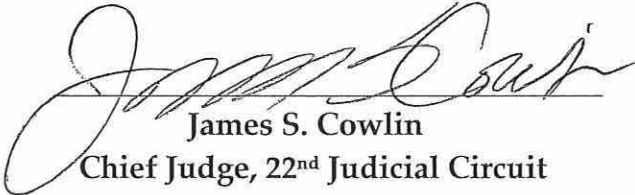
**It Is Further Ordered** commencing December 1, 2020 and until further order of the Chief Judge, all matters assigned to Judge Christopher Harmon (CR101) will proceed according to his Standing Order, 2020-06, found at <https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/courts/22nd-judicial-circuit/standing-orders>.

### **Criminal Division**

**It Is Further Ordered** commencing November 30, 2020 and through December 31, 2020 all cases assigned to courtrooms 104, 301 and 303 set for status or plea, and plea or hearing on a petition to revoke, shall be continued to a new date set by the court and the in-court appearance of the defendant and defense counsel is waived from November 30 through December 31, 2020. Appearance may be made on those dates via Zoom for courtrooms using Zoom. Defendants and their counsel shall be responsible for obtaining their new court date and those dates may be accessed at the circuit clerk's website: <https://caseinfo.mchenrycountyil.gov/pca>. Cases set for bench trial or evidentiary hearing (excluding hearing on a petition to revoke) shall proceed as previously set with in-court appearances required.

**It Is Further Ordered** that the Chief Judge may modify or amend this order.

Dated: 11-24-2020

  
James S. Cowlin  
Chief Judge, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit  
McHenry County, Illinois