

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2023-10

WHEREAS, On September 18, 2023, the pretrial release provisions of Public Acts 101-652 and 102-1104, commonly known as the Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today Act (SAFE-T Act), will go into effect;

WHEREAS, the Illinois Supreme Court promulgated an order MR31888 that provides as follows:

A chief judge who seeks to permit use of two-way audio-visual communication systems to conduct any hearings relating to pretrial detention or conditions of pretrial release shall enter a local order approving the operational challenges documented in this Order and ordering the use of two-way audio-visual communication systems in their circuit where necessary.

WHEREAS, the SAFE-T Act 725 ILCS 5/110-6.1 (c) provides that Detention Hearings may be conducted via Zoom;

WHEREAS, Illinois Supreme Court Rule 45 provides the liberal use of two-way audio-visual communication systems;

WHEREAS, operational challenges in conducting the hearings in-person exist in the Tenth Judicial Circuit;

WHEREAS, operational challenges include but are not limited to: time constraints; off-site jail in Peoria County; the Northern Counties Marshall, Putnam, and Stark cover a large geographical area and a judge may be offsite; personnel issues; the safety and security of courthouse personnel; and the volume of the Pretrial Detention Hearings;

WHEREAS, provisions can and will be made to ensure the Defendant and Defense Counsel meet privately before the Pretrial Detention Hearing;

ORDERED:

There is a basis in the Tenth Judicial Circuit for the use of two-way audio-visual communication systems to conduct any hearings relating to pretrial detention and conditions of pretrial release where necessary, pursuant to MR31888.

This Order is effective September 18, 2023, and until further Order of the Court.

Date: 9/13/23



KATHERINE S. GORMAN, Chief Circuit Judge
Tenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois