

### **Rule 553. Posting Bail or Bond**

**(a) By Whom and Where Taken.** The several circuit clerks, deputy circuit clerks and law enforcement officers designated by name or office by the chief judge of the circuit are authorized to let to bail any person arrested for or charged with an offense covered by Rules 526, 527 and 528. Upon designation by the chief judge of the circuit, bail may be taken in accordance with this article in any county, municipal or other building housing governmental units, police station, sheriff's office or jail, district headquarters building of the Illinois State Police, weigh station, or portable scale unit established for enforcement of truck violations under Rule 526(b)(1) or similar municipal ordinances. Bail deposits by credit card, debit card or by any other electronic means may only be accepted upon the approval of the chief judge and the circuit clerk's ability to accept such deposits. Individual bonds under paragraph (d) of this rule may additionally be taken as designated by the chief judge of the circuit.

**(b) Copy of Bond-Receipt for Cash Bail.** A copy of the bond or an official receipt showing the amount of cash bail posted, specifying the time and place of court appearance, shall be furnished to the accused and shall constitute a receipt for bail. The bond or cash bail, or both, shall be delivered to, deposited with, or otherwise transmitted to the office of the circuit clerk of the county in which the violation occurred within 48 hours of receipt or within the time set for the accused's appearance in court, whichever is earlier (see Rule 501(b) for definition of "Cash Bail"). Each delivery, deposit, or transmission shall identify the Complaint(s) associated with the amounts delivered, deposited, or otherwise transmitted.

**(c) Driver's License or Bond Certificate.** If an accused deposits a driver's license with the arresting officer in lieu of bail or in addition to bail, or deposits a bond certificate, the arresting officer shall note that fact on the accused's copy of the ticket and transmit the driver's license or bond certificate to the clerk within the time provided in paragraph (b) of this rule.

**(d) Individual Bond.** Persons arrested for or charged with an offense covered by Rules 526, 527 and 528 who are unable to secure release from custody under these rules may be released by giving individual bond (in the amount required by this article) by those law enforcement officers designated by name or office by the chief judge of the circuit, except when the accused is (1) unable or unwilling to establish his or her identity or submit to being fingerprinted as required by law, (2) is charged with an offense punishable by imprisonment and will pose a danger to any person or the community, or (3) elects release on separate bail under Rule 503(a)(3). Persons required to deposit both bail and driver's license under Rule 526(e) may be released on \$1,000 individual bond and his or her current Illinois driver's license. If authorized by the chief judge of the circuit, individual bonds under this paragraph (d) may be executed by signing the citation or complaint agreeing to comply with its conditions, except that when the individual bond is for a petty traffic offense, no signature shall be required. Court-approved electronic signatures are allowed.

**(e) Alternative Procedure in Minor Cases—Counties Other Than Cook.** In any case, excluding citations written by local law enforcement in Cook County, in which the bail or bond specified by Rule 526, 527 or 528 does not exceed \$300 in United States currency, an accused not required to be fingerprinted may post bond by giving the United States currency to the sworn law enforcement officer. The officer shall provide the accused with a copy of the citation duly noted with the amount of the United States currency posted as bond. The accused shall then be released

from custody. In such cases, the officer will deliver the appropriate portion(s) of the ticket along with the United States currency as bond(s) to the clerk of the circuit court or a designated building approved by the issuing law enforcement agency and approved by the receiving law enforcement agency before the end of his or her current tour of duty.

Amended effective October 7, 1970; amended February 17, 1977, effective April 1, 1977, in counties other than Cook, effective July 1, 1977, in Cook County; amended October 17, 1979, effective November 15, 1979; amended December 22, 1981, effective January 15, 1982; amended June 26, 1987, effective August 1, 1987; amended December 7, 1990, effective January 1, 1991; amended June 12, 1992, effective July 1, 1992; amended May 24, 1995, effective January 1, 1996; amended June 11, 2009, effective immediately; amended August 6, 2010, effective September 15, 2010; amended December 7, 2011, effective immediately; amended Dec. 29, 2017, eff. Jan. 1, 2018; amended Dec. 10, 2018, eff. Jan. 1, 2019; amended Mar. 8, 2019, eff. July 1, 2019; amended July 20, 2021, eff. immediately.