

STATE OF ILLINOIS
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

MAR 20 2020

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT #53
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-M-9

COVID-19 Emergency Response by the Third Judicial Circuit

Pursuant to the Illinois Supreme Court's March 17, 2020 Order M.R. 30370, *In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency*, effective immediately and until further order of the court, only essential court matters and proceedings shall continue to be heard in the Third Judicial Circuit in order to protect the health and safety of court patrons, staff, judges and the general public. All non-essential court matters and proceedings shall be continued or, where possible, conducted remotely via telephone (or video in limited circumstances) or other electronic means.

Essential court proceedings include the following:

1. All matters with individuals in custody, including bond hearings;
2. Criminal trials with speedy trial demands and those in custody;
3. Summary suspension hearings, absent an agreed continuance;
4. Emergency and Plenary Petitions for Protective Orders (including, but not limited to, Orders of Protection, Stalking, No Contact, Civil No Contact and Firearms Surrender Order);
5. Detention hearings for detained juveniles;
6. Shelter Care and other essential hearings for juveniles who may have been abused or neglected;
7. Mental Health hearings for involuntary commitment or treatment;
8. Emergency hearings in family matters scheduled only with the approval of the Court;
9. Any other emergency hearing scheduled and approved by the court.

Individuals shall be denied entry to the courthouse if they:

1. Have travelled, within the last 21 days, to any country designated by the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as high risk locations for transmission of COVID-19;
2. Reside with or have close contact with anyone who has travelled to any country designated by the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as high risk locations for transmission of COVID-19; or
3. Have been directed to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor at home for by any medical provider; or
4. Reside with or have close contact with anyone who has been directed to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor at home by any medical provider; or

5. Have been diagnosed with, or have had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19; or
6. Have flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

If you are an attorney or litigant and have a scheduled case, appointment, or are otherwise required to appear at the courthouse in connection with a court case, but are unable to appear because of the above restrictions, you should contact the Circuit Clerk where the case is pending or visit their website.

The court will continue to conduct hearings on only essential or time sensitive matters if the presentment of a motion or petition cannot be conducted remotely via telephone (or video in limited circumstances) or other electronic means. In such an event, at these proceedings, parties are required to remain seated at counsel table and maintain safe distance of at least six (6) feet between themselves, other counsel and courtroom personnel at all times.

- The Law Library/Self Help Center is hereby closed. Self-help forms will continue to be available from the Circuit Clerk's Office.

- E-Filing requirements for self-represented litigants only is hereby suspended until further notice as access to the clerk's E-Filing terminals for self-represented litigants will not be available at this time. Such persons may file paper pleadings with the Circuit Clerk.

- Staffing of the Circuit Court, its administration, the Detention Home and Probation and Court Services is being reduced in light of Supreme Court Order M.R. 30370 and this order.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is to notify all parties of record by posting on its website and emailing attorneys and by other appropriate means.

It is further ordered that this order be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Madison County, Illinois and that said order be made available to the members of the bar and public.

ENTER: March 20, 2020



William A. Mudge
Chief Judge