

STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

KATHERINE S. GORMAN
Chief Circuit Judge



PEORIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
324 Main Street - Room 215
Peoria, Illinois 61602-1363

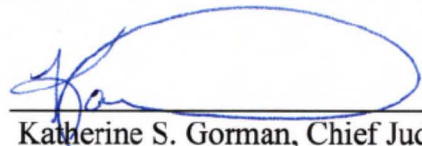
For Immediate Release
January 22, 2021

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**Chief Judge announces February 1, 2021 Circuit-Wide Operational Plan for the Tenth Circuit Courts
(Peoria, Tazewell, Marshall, Putnam, and Stark Counties)**

1. In consultation with various justice partners, effective February 1, 2021, a new Circuit-Wide Operational Plan For The Courts, including Courthouse Access and Trials with a goal of more courthouse access with fewer remote hearings, was defined.
2. While the details of A.O. 2021-02 are significant and can be found in full at www.10thcircuitcourtil.org it can be summarized as follows:
 - a. More in person matters.
 - b. Fewer remote hearings.
 - c. Precautions continue.
3. As we look toward greater access, continued strategies for the safety of patrons allowed into the Courthouse for court business include:
 - a. Make sure you are permitted for an in-person hearing, as many have been set for remote hearing or have been continued.
 - b. Face coverings and appropriate social distancing will be required.
 - c. If allowed, arrive on time, and depart when your matter is concluded.
 - d. Only necessary people to a hearing should come to court. Leave spectators, friends at home. Follow directional signage.
 - e. Be prepared to be screened and follow directions of security.
4. During this unprecedented time, the cooperative efforts of many, including the public, has been appreciated so that access to justice and appropriate concern for public health has coincided. Thank you.
5. Jury Trials have been conducted safely to date from a juror perspective; safeguards will continue to reduce the risk to the public while serving the citizens of the Tenth Judicial Circuit.
6. During this time of ever-present change, the courts, attorneys, court staff and justice partners have worked collectively for the benefit of the public and will continue to do so...looking forward with optimism.

ENTERED: January 22, 2021


Katherine S. Gorman, Chief Judge