

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-08

22nd Judicial Circuit
McHenry County, Illinois

FILED

JUL 08 2021

KATHERINE M. KEEFE
McHENRY CTY. CIR. CLK.

Whereas, the Corona Virus known as COVID-19 has caused the 22nd Judicial Circuit to modify its operations as stated in previous administrative orders; and

Whereas, the Supreme Court entered an Order on May 20, 2020 authorizing each circuit court to return to hearing court matters on June 1, 2020, whether in person or remotely, according to a schedule to be adopted for each county by the chief judge in each circuit; and

Whereas, the Chief Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit entered Administrative Order 2020-11 dated May 21, 2020 to address operations during the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to authority granted by the Supreme Court; and

Whereas, on June 30, 2021, the Illinois Supreme Court issued Order M.R. 30370, indicating;

“Effective immediately and until further order of the Court that the chief circuit judges of the State are no longer required to allow for appropriate social distancing as required by this Court’s order of May 20, 2020 and are permitted to relax or eliminate social distancing requirements. The decision to do so should be based on an assessment of local conditions.”

Whereas, the Chief Circuit Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit has conferred with McHenry County Department of Health and other local governmental authorities, regarding social distancing and the current state of COVID-19 in McHenry County.

Therefore, the Chief Judge hereby orders the following:

- Individuals, including judges, court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors and witnesses, should not enter any courthouse if they have flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or shortness of breath (excluding such symptoms caused by chronic conditions); currently have been directed to quarantine or isolate at home by any medical provider or public health official; or reside or have regular close contact with a person currently subject to a quarantine or isolation direction issued by a medical provider or public health official and are not themselves fully vaccinated.
- If a person is not fully vaccinated, that person shall wear a mask and should maintain social distance.
- Individuals or employees who are fully vaccinated may continue to wear a mask or facecovering.
- Administrative Order 2021-07 is hereby vacated.

- Administrative Order No. 2020-06; Temporary Order COVID-19 Notices to Appear on Misdemeanor Cases is hereby vacated.
- Administrative Order No. 2020-20 is hereby vacated insofar as it requires remote court appearances on all pending matters in Courtroom 359, 360, 361, and 365.
- Administrative Order No. 2020-16 is hereby modified and the following is entered regarding wedding ceremonies performed in the Michael J. Sullivan Judicial Center:
 - Weddings during the week shall be scheduled at specific times, in 15-minute increments (11:00am, 11:15am, 11:30am, 1:15pm, 3:00pm, 3:15pm, and 3:30pm).
 - Eight (8) Saturday weddings may be scheduled on the first and third Saturdays of the month, with four (4) weddings scheduled at 8:45am and another four (4) weddings scheduled at 9:15am.
 - Guests may attend wedding ceremonies.

It is further ordered, that the Court will continue operations in a way that (1) limits the number of people in a courtroom and in the hallways of the Judicial Center at any one time, (2) allows for efficient court appearances and avoids unnecessary court appearances, (3) takes advantage of orders and processes that allow cases to progress through remote appearances and agreed orders.

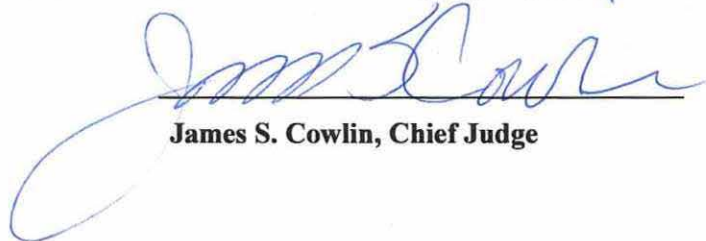
- At the discretion of the judge presiding over a courtroom, the use of video remote appearances shall continue pursuant to Supreme Court Rule, Local Court Rule, and Guidelines for a Virtual Courtroom, as established by the 22nd Judicial Circuit and as encouraged by Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Anne Burke's letter dated June 14, 2021.
- Administrative Order No. 2020-19, is hereby modified, until further order of the Court that all pleas and post plea matters scheduled in courtroom 102, Judge Jennifer Johnson presiding, or any judge sitting in her stead, may be heard remotely via Zoom and trials or other evidentiary proceedings will be heard in person in courtroom 102.
- Administrative Order No. 2020-17 shall remain in effect, until further order of the Court, thereby continuing to permit petitioners to present petitions for emergency orders of protection, stalking no contact orders and civil no contact orders by remote video conferencing technology pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 241 and 45.
- In person initial/emergency petitions for orders of protection, no stalking orders, and civil no contact orders will be heard in Courtroom 357, if available. If Courtroom 357 is not available, Courtroom 365, or another courtroom will be used.
- Agreed Orders shall continue to be accepted in the Civil and Family Divisions.

- Amended Illinois Supreme Court Order, M.R. 30370, entered July 2, 2021, remains in effect until the Governor's moratorium on residential eviction lawsuits expires, the 22nd Judicial Circuit of McHenry County shall comply with said order, as amended from time to time, by the Illinois Supreme Court.
- All court schedules established during the pandemic shall continue in their current form, until further order of the Court.
- Volunteer Family Mediation shall continue to be held in the Arbitration Center located at 400 Russell Court on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

It is further ordered, pursuant to the order of the Illinois Supreme Court; Beginning October 1, 2021, statutory time restrictions in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 (725 ILCS 5/103-5) and section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 (705 ILCS 405/5-601) shall no longer be tolled. All days on and following October 1, 2021, shall be included in speedy trial computations as contained in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 and section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. Days prior to this Court's March 20, 2020, order in M.R. 30370 In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency/ Impact on Trials shall also be included in speedy trial computations as required by the statutory time restrictions in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963. Days prior to this Court's April 3, 2020, modification to M.R. 30370 In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency/ Impact on Trials shall also be included in speedy trial computations as required by the statutory time restrictions of section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

It is further ordered, that the 22nd Judicial Circuit's Pandemic Continuity of Operations Plan, activated on March 13, 2020 and the 22nd Judicial Circuit Continuity of Operations Reestablishment Plan relating to the COVID-19 pandemic is hereby terminated.

It Is So Ordered, this 8th day of July, 2021 and said order shall be effective, July 12, 2021.



James S. Cowlin, Chief Judge