

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

Third Judicial Circuit Madison and Bond Counties

WILIAM A. MUDGE CHIEF JUDGE

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Office of the Chief Judge 155 North Main Street Edwardsville, IL 62025

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TO RESUME LIMITED IN-PERSON PROCEEDINGS

Beginning March 1, 2021, the Third Judicial Circuit plans to resume limited in-person proceedings while continuing to provide access to the courts via remote means. While procedures are in place to reduce unnecessary in-person court appearances and to promote remote court appearances, in-person matters will resume in both the main courthouse and the Criminal Justice Center.

Persons will be denied entry into the Courthouse if they are not wearing a face covering, and will also be denied entry if they are:

- Awaiting the results of a COVID test;
- Been directed to quarantine by any medical provider or health department;
- Reside with or have had close contact with anyone directed to guarantine;
- Have been diagnosed with, or have had close contact with anyone diagnosed with, COVID-19;
- Have flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough, or shortness of breath; or
- 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.

"During this difficult time, the Court has relied on remote virtual hearings to minimize the number of persons who must enter the courthouse. The use of Zoom and other remote platforms for virtual hearings will continue. However, given the improvement with community spread of the virus and the easing of mitigations in Region 4, in-person court appearances will resume in a limited and safe manner. I thank the citizens of Bond and Madison Counties for their patience and cooperation," said Chief Judge William A. Mudge.

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