

**ROBERT P. PILMER  
CHIEF JUDGE**



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Date: March 13, 2020

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: DeKalb Co: Debi Akerlow 815-895-7160  
Kendall Co: Marci Vose 630-553-4208  
Trial Court Administrators

### **COURTS REMAIN OPEN**

As the courts perform essential functions, the Kendall and DeKalb County Courts of the 23rd Judicial Circuit remain open. Although the present risk level in our area remains low, health care professionals advise that we should all minimize contact to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. The Circuit Court intends to take the following reasonable measures toward that end:

- **Juries:** The Court system cannot function without juries. We are, however, reviewing ways to minimize the need for jurors to be summoned to the courthouse. While some jurors will still be summoned, reducing the numbers summoned will create a less congested environment and increase the personal space available for summoned jurors.
- **Sick Jurors:** If you have been summoned for jury duty and are ill, please call the number listed on the jury summons to discuss your situation. Attempts will be made to accommodate your situation.
- **Litigants:** If you have a case scheduled and begin to feel ill, you should consider the following:
  - Contact the opposing party or attorney to explore an agreed continuance.
  - If there is no agreement, contact the circuit clerk's office to advise if you are unable to attend court. Judges will consider on a case-by-case basis whether a continuance of the court date is in order. Providing medical documentation of your condition will likely help.

- Marriages: We will continue to perform marriages in the courthouse as needed. When you call the court administrator to schedule a wedding, the court administrator will advise you of any specific restrictions which may be in effect in that county.
- Tours: Any courthouse tours scheduled between now and Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> are canceled. Future courthouse tours may be scheduled through the court administrator for each county.

The current situation is one that presents challenges to the Court's normal operating procedures. We are looking at all of the ways in which we might temporarily alter those procedures to minimize risk while still attending to the Court's core responsibilities. We appreciate the cooperation and patience of the public as we work to implement these changes in procedure. Understanding that the current public health situation may change on a daily basis, if not hourly, the efforts which the courts are taking may also change. You are advised to check the Court's website for further updates. <https://dekalbcounty.org/>  
<https://www.co.kendall.il.us/>

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