

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-07
Effective May 1, 2020, through May 31, 2020

Due to the global coronavirus pandemic, the Champaign County Circuit Court will restrict operations to essential court functions to minimize personal contact and deter the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. The court will ensure access to justice by performing essential court functions and will take necessary precautionary measures consistent with public safety and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and state and local public health authorities.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT

The Champaign County Courthouse remains **CLOSED** for regular business until June 1, 2020, unless otherwise ordered by the court, with the following exceptions:

- Bond hearings and arraignments for individuals who are arrested and in custody;
- Preliminary hearings for individuals in custody;
- Emergency and plenary petitions for protective orders (including, but not limited to, orders of protection, stalking no-contact, civil no-contact, and firearm surrender orders);
- Detention and review of detention hearings for juveniles who are detained;
- Shelter care and other essential hearings for juveniles who may have been abused or neglected;
- Mental health hearings for involuntary commitment or treatment;
- Pleas for in-custody defendants that involve a release of custody;
- Pleas for out-of-custody defendants as scheduled through the State's Attorney's Office.

A limited number of individuals will be permitted to enter the building for official court business. Attorneys and the public are advised that they shall not enter the building until 10 minutes prior to the time of their hearing or appointment.

Individuals who are permitted to enter the courthouse will be required to wear face coverings upon entry and at all times within the building, except as ordered by the Court.

To minimize the number of people entering the courthouse, detention hearings will continue to be held via video feed between the courthouse and the detention facility.

The court will not require motions to continue for any cases set between now and May 29, 2020. New dates will be set after regular operations resume or by individual judges as feasible. The attorney of record or unrepresented party in each case will receive a notice in the mail rescheduling their case. Upon rescheduling, the Champaign County Circuit Clerk's website will be updated with the new court dates.

Requests for emergency hearings in only the categories listed above shall be emailed directly to the Presiding Judge of Champaign County and to the judge assigned to the case.

Jury trials will resume after the courthouse has reopened. Only criminal trials for defendants in custody will be held at that time.

All pretrial hearings are canceled until the court reopens. These cases will be continued by the court to the next pretrial date after normal operations resume.

The legal self-help center is closed until further notice.

Anyone seeking an emergency protective order as listed above may enter the courthouse to file paperwork and attend the hearing, provided the necessary health precautions are taken while in the building.

Modifications to the above procedures may become necessary on short notice.

Dated this 30th day of April and effective until the 29th day of May 2020 unless extended by further order of the court.

ENTER: 4/30, 2020.



Circuit Judge