

**FILED**

MAR 27 2020

*Kristin A. Shell*  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OGLE COUNTY

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

20-8

RE: COVID-19 POLICY AND PROCEDURE

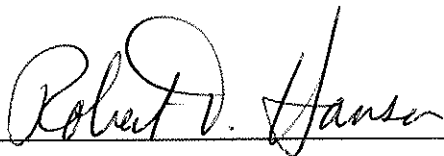
The Courts will take the following action, effective Monday, March 16:

- No jury trial in criminal or civil matters will begin with the time period of this suspension. Individuals who have been summoned to jury duty should not report for jury duty. They will receive a new date for service.  
Grand jury proceedings will be continued during the period of suspension.
- For all adult criminal cases, all trials and many hearings scheduled within the period of suspension will be postponed to a future date. Hearings that will proceed within the period of suspension include bail hearings, arraignments and preliminary hearings. In addition, defendants may continue to enter into plea agreements to conclude their case. Any pre-trial defendant may also request a bail review during this time.
- In addition, during the period of suspension, probation officers will contact clients to inform them that they will schedule meeting to be held by phone conversation. Clients deemed high-risk may be required to report to their probation officers in person at the discretion of the probation officer.
- All traffic, DUI and criminal misdemeanor cases scheduled in the period of the suspension will be rescheduled to a future date, except that hearings on Petitions to Rescind Summary Suspensions will be set for hearing in accordance with the applicable statute.
- For delinquency and criminal proceedings involving juveniles, the only matters which will occur within the time period of the suspension are demands for trial and detention hearings that determine if a juvenile is held in custody while the case is pending.
- Judges will hear cases of child abuse or neglect in which the state seeks protective custody of a child, and judges will hear emergency motions in which children are allegedly abused in foster care.

- For domestic violence matters petitioners may seek orders of protection during the period of suspension, and hearings on the Petitions will be heard within the period of suspension, as provided by statute. Litigants may also seek an order of protection related to an existing civil domestic relations case (such as dissolution of marriage). Emergency petitions may also be filed in child-support matters and bona fide emergency parenting time disputes at the discretion of the court. Such emergency petitions may proceed telephonically at the discretion of the Court. Agreed orders setting forth new duties or setting teleconferences for new dates is encouraged.
- All specialty courts will be continued.
- Child support enforcement matters will be continued to a future date.
- During the period of suspension, all civil matters not deemed an emergency will be postponed to a future date. Emergency requests in civil matters will be permitted and may be held telephonically at the discretion of the court.
- No new orders for possession arising from an eviction or foreclosure proceeding will be heard during this period of suspension.
- New civil lawsuits may still be filed via electronic filing.
- Marriages: We will continue to perform marriages in the courthouse as needed. When calling the court for the respective county to schedule a wedding, you will be advised of any specific restrictions which may be in effect in that county.
- Tours: Any courthouse tours scheduled between now and Friday, April 17 are canceled. Future courthouse tours may be scheduled in the same manner initially scheduled.

Each courthouse shall post a sign at its entrance notifying the public that only essential cases will be heard March 16-April 17, 2020.

Enter: March 15, 2020



Robert T. Hanson  
Chief Judge