



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT  
22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
McHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS



March 17, 2020

**For Immediate Release**

**FROM: The Chambers of Chief Judge James S. Cowlin**

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**Trial Court Administrator**

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**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit of McHenry County to Hear Only Essential Mandated Services**

(Woodstock, IL) Effective immediately, pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Order, MR 30370, only essential court matters shall continue to be heard by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit of McHenry County. All non-essential court matters shall be continued until further order of the court.

If you have a matter before the court for any other type hearing or case, please do not come to the courthouse as you will not be admitted. All scheduled weddings at the courthouse are cancelled until further notice.

The Court will only provide the following essential services at this time:

- Bond Hearings and arraignments for individuals who are arrested
- Criminal trials with speedy trial demands
- Summary Suspension hearings
- Emergency Petitions for Orders of Protection, Stalking, No Contact
- Emergency Petitions for Civil No Contact, and Petitions for Firearm Surrender Order
- Detention hearings for juveniles who are detained
- Shelter care hearings for juveniles who may have been abused or neglected
- Mental health hearings for involuntary commitment or treatment
- Bond rehearings for individuals who remain in custody at the jail

If you have a pending case before the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit, please go to the Circuit Clerk of the Court's Website, at <https://caseinfo.mchenrycountyil.gov> on or after, March 23<sup>rd</sup> to see when your next court date has been scheduled. If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney.

**The mission of the 22nd Judicial Circuit of McHenry County is to be the guardian of life, liberty and property to all seeking access to justice, by adhering to practices that ensure equality, fairness and confidence in the judiciary.**

The Court has had a Pandemic Continuity of Operations Plan for a number of years and has planned for this contingency. Communications from the Court will be sent from the Office of the Trial Court Administrator via press releases, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit Facebook Page, Twitter (@22ndJudCircuit), website at <http://22ndCircuitIllinois.org> and other social media platforms.

This unprecedented situation presents unique challenges to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit's normal operating procedures. Court leadership will continue to work with state and local officials to monitor the situation and make changes as necessary and communicate those changes to members of the public, other branches of government, and judicial partners. We ask for your cooperation and patience as we work to minimize the risk to those utilizing the services of the Court, while we continue to perform our essential and mandated functions.

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