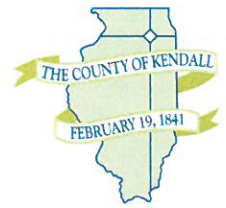




KENDALL COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Dwight A. Baird, Sheriff
1102 Cornell Lane Yorkville Illinois 60560
Phone: 630-553-7500 Fax: 630-553-1972
www.co.kendall.il.us/sheriff



The Kendall County Sheriff's Position on the Governor's Executive Order

Over the past few weeks I have received many inquiries about the enforcement of the Governor's Executive order about COVID 19 and the restrictions he has outlined in the order. I have also received calls from business owners with specific questions as it relates to wanting to open their businesses that are classified by the Governor as being non-essential. I have received calls about church services, weddings, parties or graduation parties, gathering on private property asking will someone get arrested or fined by the Sheriff's Office. These calls have been increasing since the Governor has decided to group Kendall County in with Cook County. I hope he reconsiders that decision and moves Kendall County into another region more fitting to the community we are.

The Kendall County Sheriff's Office will not arrest or fine anyone for solely violating the Governor's Executive Order. Kendall County does not have an ordinance that would support a fine for not following the Governor's Executive Order. I was elected and took an oath as your Sheriff to enforce the laws and protect your constitutional rights, the Governor's Executive Order is not a law. On April 21, 2020, Deputy Director David Robinson of the Appellate Prosecutors Office wrote an opinion stating in summary that the Governor's Executive Order has constitutional challenges and goes beyond what the specific act allows the Governor's office to do. We have also consulted with our Kendall County States' Attorney.

If someone chooses to open their business, hold church service, have a wedding and/or reception or host a graduation party the Kendall County Sheriff's Office will not come and order these activities cease based solely on the Governor's Executive Order. However, I want to caution businesses that are licensed through the State of Illinois or a municipality they have the authority over your license, I would consult with your attorney. Additionally, you may want to contact your insurance company to ask if you open your business or host a party at your home are you putting yourself in liability.

The experts have recommended we continue to social distance, wash our hands and wear masks when social distancing is not possible. I suggest you practice these recommendations as you see appropriate for you and your families. It is your right to choose what you want to do but please respect the rights of others and their choices.

In closing, I am not telling or instructing you to defy the Governor's Executive Order, I am merely explaining how the Kendall County Sheriff's Office will provide service. You need to do what is right and safe for you and your family. If the circumstances change drastically we might change our stance and if we do, we will again issue a statement informing you of any change.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Baird", written over a horizontal line.

Kendall County Sheriff, Dwight Baird