

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

GENERAL ORDER 20 - 17

*In re Jury Trials in the Circuit Court
of DeKalb and Kendall Counties*

FILED

MAY 22 2020

**ROBYN INGEMUNSON
CIRCUIT CLERK KENDALL CO.**

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court entered an Order on May 20, 2020 authorizing each circuit court to return to hearing court matters on June 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court directed chief judges to consider the *Supreme Court Guidelines for Resuming Illinois Judicial Branch Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, and the Chief Judge has considered said guidelines with respect to conducting criminal and civil jury trials in DeKalb and Kendall Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court, in its May 20, 2020 Order, amended its prior orders, stating:

The Chief Judges of each circuit may continue trials until further order of this Court. The continuances occasioned by this Order serve the ends of justice and outweigh the best interests of the public and defendants in a speedy trial. Therefore, such continuances shall be excluded from speedy trial computations contained in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 (725 ILCS 5/103-5 (West 2018)) and section 5-601 of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act (705 ILCS 405/5-601 (West 2018)). Statutory time restrictions in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 and section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act shall be tolled until further order of this Court. This provision also applies when a trial is delayed when the court determines proper distancing and facilities limitations prevent the trial from proceeding safely. The judge in the case must find that such limitations necessitated the delay and shall make a record thereof. (Supreme Court Order, *In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency*, M.R. 30370, May 20, 2020.)

WHEREAS, after consulting with the Presiding Judge of DeKalb County and receiving input from the judges assigned to civil matters in DeKalb and Kendall Counties; and

WHEREAS, being fully cognizant of the significant challenges facing the courts in each county with respect to the resumption of jury trials when considering the limitations of each courthouse facility, the ability to provide proper distancing, and with due regard to the safety, health, and well-being of all participants.


IT IS ORDERED:

1. All civil jury trials in DeKalb County are continued until after September 30, 2020, with the trial judge to set future court dates in each matter for either status and the re-setting of future trial dates, or future trial dates;
2. All civil jury trials in Kendall County are continued until after September 30, 2020, with the trial judge to set future court dates in each matter for either status and the re-setting of future trial dates, or future trial dates;
3. All criminal jury trials in DeKalb County are continued until on or after July 20, 2020, with the trial judge to set future court dates in each matter for either status and the re-setting of future trial dates, or future trial dates;
4. All criminal jury trials in Kendall County are continued until on or after July 13, 2020, with the trial judge to set future court dates in each matter for either status and the re-setting of future trial dates, or future trial dates;
5. Pursuant to the order of the Supreme Court entered on May 20, 2020, as referenced above, each trial judge may delay a trial further if the court determines that proper distancing and facilities limitations prevent the trial from proceeding safely, the trial judge finds that such

limitations necessitate the delay, and the trial judge makes a record of such findings in any such matter so delayed.

This General Order shall be effective upon entry, and shall remain in effect until repealed, or until such time as the Supreme Court Order of May 20, 2020 referenced herein is modified, amended, or set aside.

Enter: May 22, 2020.



Hon. Robert P. Pilmer
CHIEF JUDGE