



TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
JUDICIAL OFFICE • KENDALL COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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**KENDALL COURTS TO RESUME FULL OPERATIONS
STARTING JUNE 1**

Beginning June 1, all Kendall County Courts are resuming full operations. Chief Judge Robert Pilmer announced the resumption, noting “The Illinois Supreme Court has authorized the circuit courts to resume operations beginning June 1st, and the judges in Kendall County are ready to do so.” Since mid-March, court operations have proceeded on a limited basis due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Even though full operations will resume, Pilmer stated that a number of changes have been made due to ongoing concerns about the health and safety of all court users and the courthouse employees. The courts are attempting to balance public health and safety with access and openness, as directed by the Supreme Court. The circuit court is also attempting to allow for appropriate social distancing, taking into consideration the limitations of facilities which were not designed with that concept in mind. “Facilities management under the direction of Jim Smiley has been instrumental in helping plan for social distancing within the courthouse”, said Pilmer. We’ve also consulted with the Health Department to ensure that we are following the

current guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Among the biggest change will be conducting traffic court at the Yorkville High School on Monday through Thursday mornings. For people having cases at the courthouse, most people will have an option to appear remotely using Zoom. Information about how to do so can be found on the Circuit Clerk's website. While not all cases can be addressed remotely, the judges have embraced the effective use of video conference technology which allows individuals and attorneys the ability to appear remotely. This helps meet the Supreme Court's mandate that circuit courts attempt to reduce the number of persons appearing personally in the courthouse for their court case.

For those individuals who must come to the courthouse, masks or face coverings must be worn, consistent with the Governor's executive order, and applicable health guidelines. Additionally, court times have been staggered in an additional effort to minimize the number of persons in the courthouse at any given time.

Jury trials are scheduled to resume in July, although we may limited in the number of trials which may be conducted due to social distancing concerns for potential jurors. We expect to call a sufficient number of prospective jurors to enable us to conduct trials, and still take appropriate safeguards for the health and safety of all potential jurors.

“We’ve made a number of changes to the way the courts typically operate, and we expect to make other changes over time”, said Pilmer. “While change can be difficult, we are grateful for the cooperation of the other offices in the courthouse to help us implement these changes, which we believe will benefit all of those who use the judicial system”, he added.

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