# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT KENDALL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

In re: Standing Order Regarding Remote Telephone Appearances in Civil Cases Through CourtCall, LLC ("CourtCall") 2020 - MR-3

FILED

MAR 16 2020

ROBYN INGEMUNSON CIRCUIT CLERK KENDALL CO.

In an effort to increase efficiency and reduce costs to litigants, telephone appearances will be allowed in civil cases as provided herein.

#### SCHEDULING AND NOTICE

- Except as provided through a specific order of Court, no remote appearance will be allowed unless it is made through CourtCall, an independent audio and video conference servicing company.
- CourtCall facilitates the remote appearances of persons at hearings which have already been scheduled by regular means with the Court. CourtCall does not set or calendar hearings for the Court.
- CourtCall appearances will be arranged only for 9:00 a.m. court appearances, unless specifically ordered by a judge.

- 4. Remote appearances must be arranged by contacting CourtCall by phone at (888) 882-6878 or online at *www.courtcall.com*, no later than 4 p.m. on the second court day preceding a hearing date, or with leave of Court.
- 5. Persons electing to make a remote appearance shall notify all parties of the same in writing no less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled court date, or as directed by the Court.
- 6. Nothing in these procedures shall be construed as modifying the notice of motion requirements set forth in Supreme Court Rules or in the Local Rules of the 23rd Judicial Circuit.

## APPEARANCE PROCEDURE

- 7. Only counsel of record and self-represented litigants may appear by telephone conference unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
- 8. It is the responsibility of the person making a remote appearance to access the conference no later than five (5) minutes prior to any scheduled hearing. Participants may be placed on "hold" until the case is called by the Court and shall be immediately available when the case is called.
- 9. Persons appearing by telephone shall state their name each time they speak, spell it for the record the first time they speak, and shall participate in the appearance with the same degree of courtesy and courtroom etiquette as is required for a personal appearance.
- 10. To ensure the quality of the record, persons appearing by telephone shall participate from a quiet, private location.
- 11. No recording of court proceedings may be made by any person or by any means.

- 12. Telephone appearances are limited to agreed orders, uncontested matters, routine status hearings, and case management conferences, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Telephone appearances shall not be permitted for argument on contested or briefed motions, for evidentiary hearings, or for more than three consecutive case management conferences unless allowed by prior court order. In any matter, the Court may deny the use of telephonic appearances.
- 13. CourtCall matters will be entertained as determined by the judge presiding.
- 14. If a person schedules a remote appearance and fails to respond when the matter is called, the Court may pass the matter or may treat the failure to respond as a failure to appear. Scheduling simultaneous remote appearances in multiple jurisdictions does not excuse a failure to appear.
- 15. After an appearance, counsel appearing in the courtroom is responsible for immediate presentation of a court order. If no counsel is present, an order must be submitted by e-mail in PDF format to the Court Administrator at <a href="movse@co.kendall.il.us">movse@co.kendall.il.us</a> by 3:00 p.m. the same day as the CourtCall appearance. The subject field of the email should state "Court Call Order" with the case number, and all counsel or parties entitled to receive notice shall receive a copy of the email in order to avoid the possibility of an *ex parte* conversation. Failure to timely submit an order may result in a suspension of the privilege of appearing by CourtCall. Copies of the signed order will not be returned via email, and may be obtained from the Circuit Clerk.

## **COSTS**

16. CourtCall is an independent service provider. The party arranging for the services of CourtCall shall be solely responsible for any costs or other expenses incurred for those services, unless otherwise ordered by Court. Under no circumstance shall the Court bear any costs for any remote appearance

#### **REJECTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS**

- 17. The fact that a remote appearance is scheduled with CourtCall shall not be construed as a determination that the remote appearance is permitted by the Court. The Court reserves the right, at any time, to reject any remote appearance in violation of these protocols or as otherwise necessary for the administration of justice.
- 18. The Court reserves the right to halt any remote appearance in progress and to order the attorneys to personally appear.
- 19. The Court reserves the right and has the sole discretion to suspend any person's ability to appear remotely, to bar any telephone appearances in any case and to revoke the use of CourtCall in its entirety at any time.

Enter: March 16, 2020.

Hon, Robert P. Pilmer