

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Continued Court Operations Require Precautionary Measures

The Champaign County Courthouse remains open and court officials continue to monitor state and local responses to the coronavirus. To ensure the protection of the public health while continuing to perform essential court functions, cooperation from the community is essential.

The following steps are being taken to reduce the number of people entering the courthouse and to minimize risk of exposure for those who must be physically present in the building:

GENERALLY

- Individuals exhibiting symptoms associated with the COVID-19 coronavirus will be **required** to wear protective masks before entering the building and for the duration of their visit to the courthouse. Anyone observed coughing or sneezing who refuses to wear a mask will not be allowed in the building.
- We are asking the public to limit the number of people who come into the courthouse.
 - Crime victims should communicate with the State's Attorney's Office Victim Services staff.
 - Friends and family of parties to any case should communicate with the appropriate attorneys or refer to online resources about the status of a case before attending court.
- The public is encouraged to use existing online resources as much as possible to conduct court business (resolving traffic tickets, making payments, eFiling eligible court documents, checking court calendars, viewing public court records). Please visit <https://www.champaigncircuitclerk.org/> for more information.
- All courthouse tours and educational events are canceled until further notice.
- Custodial staff perform intensified cleaning procedures and disinfect all touch point surfaces in the courthouse each night after the building closes.

JURIES

- Anyone who has received a summons to report for jury duty and is ill should contact the jury coordinator via the telephone number on the jury summons to arrange for service to be deferred to a later date.

LITIGANTS and ATTORNEYS

- If you are required to appear in court and experience any acute respiratory illness symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, headaches), cold- or flu-like symptoms, have a fever or are sneezing, please take the following precautions:
 - Contact the opposing party or attorney to discuss a continuation of your matter;
 - If you cannot agree to continue the matter, contact the office of the courtroom in which your case is scheduled to be heard. The judges will consider each case individually to determine whether a continuance of the hearing is appropriate. Any medical documentation of your condition should be made available.

- Individual courtrooms may establish interim protocols to limit the number of people who must appear in court.

WEDDING CEREMONIES

- We will continue to perform marriage ceremonies in the courthouse. Although we ask that only the couple being married enter the courthouse, up to 10 guests will be permitted to attend if precautionary measures are taken.

ADULT and JUVENILE PROBATION, JUVENILE DETENTION

- Probation and Detention remain open.
- Probationers who are feeling ill or have had contact with anyone who has the coronavirus should contact their probation officer by phone (rather than in person). Probation clients should also contact their probation officers by phone if they have questions about their next appointment.

SELF-HELP CENTER

- The legal self-help center will remain open as staff are available to provide services. Notice of closures will be posted on the court's and circuit clerk's websites.
- If you are experiencing any acute respiratory illness symptoms, cold- or flu-like symptoms, have a fever, or are coughing or sneezing, please do not visit the self-help center.

EMPLOYEES

- Courthouse employees have been directed to stay home if they experience any symptoms associated with acute respiratory illness, the cold or flu, or who have a fever. Any employees who have cared for sick children or visited medical facilities will consult with their supervisors before reporting to work. Medical documentation may be required before employees can return to work.

We appreciate the cooperation and patience of the public, attorneys, litigants, and media as we work together and continue to adapt to the evolving public health challenges. Contact information is listed below.

Circuit Court

<http://www.co.champaign.il.us/CircuitCourt/contacts.php>
circuitct@co.champaign.il.us

Probation & Court Services: (217) 384-3753

Juvenile Detention Center: 217-384-3780

Public Defender's Office: (217) 384-3714

Circuit Clerk: (217) 384-3725

Jury Coordinator: (217) 531-7408

State's Attorney's Office contact information:

General phone number: (217) 384-3733

General email address: statesatty@co.champaign.il.us

Support Enforcement Division email: supportenforcement@co.champaign.il.us

Victim Services Email: VictimServices@co.champaign.il.us

Traffic Division: Traffic@co.champaign.il.us

All other court offices: <http://www.co.champaign.il.us/HeaderMenu/departments.php>