

# TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIRCUIT COURT OF WILL COUNTY



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CHAMBERS OF  
RICHARD C. SCHOENSTEDT  
CHIEF JUDGE

## PRESS RELEASE

DATE: MAY 27, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COURT OPERATIONS - JUNE 1, 2020

On May 27, 2020, Chief Judge Richard C. Schoenstedt issued Administrative Order 2020-23. This Order sets forth the parameters of Court operations as the State moves into Stage 3 of Governor Pritzker's "Restore Illinois" plan. Administrative Order 2020-23 delineates many of the current practices including the safety requirements of social distancing and face-covering as well as the expanded use of remote hearings in Civil and Family cases. In addition, specific protocols in felony, juvenile, misdemeanor and traffic cases have also been adopted.

"The COVID-19 health emergency has presented unparalleled challenges to all segments of society. The Twelfth Circuit has had to adapt its operations in order to balance the paramount importance of the health and safety of Court users, employees and the public with the need to deliver the services mandated under the Constitution and the directives of the Supreme Court of Illinois. In order to best accomplish these tasks, I have consulted with my colleagues, the Trial Court Administrator, the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts and our justice partners. We believe that the procedures set forth in this Administrative Order provide our best opportunity to balance these priorities for those working in and using our Courts." Chief Judge Schoenstedt said.

"This Administrative Order is the first step toward achieving the goals of a fully operational Court system while keeping Court users, employees and the public safe. However, it is critically important for all of us to adhere to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and the Will County Department of Public Health. We are asking everyone associated with the Courts to cooperate with us in this endeavor." Trial Court Administrator Holland stated.

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