

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 28, 2020**

Urbana, IL – The Champaign County Courthouse will reopen for regular business, with some modifications, on June 1, 2020. Modifications to normal operations include the following:

GENERALLY

- Do not come to the courthouse if you are sick.
- All visitors to the courthouse must wear a mask upon entering the building and while in the building unless told otherwise by a judge or court security officer.
- Do not bring anyone with you who doesn't need to be present for official business.
 - Subject to constitutional limitations, the Presiding Judge may restrict courtroom appearances to litigants, witnesses, and counsel.
- Do not bring anything that you do not need into the courthouse. You are not permitted to bring electronics, including mobile phones, into the building.
- All visitors should be prepared to tell the officers at the front entrance the following information:
 - The reason for their visit (court hearing, appointment with probation officer or attorney, filing, wedding, self-help center, etc.)
 - The time of their appointment or hearing.
- Occupancy limits in courtrooms have been reduced, so please do not arrive any earlier than 10 minutes before your court proceeding or you will have to wait outside the building.
- Many courthouse offices will see clients/visitors by appointment only. Please refer to the county's COVID-19 Information page for scheduling and contact information.
<http://www.co.champaign.il.us/covid-19>
- There are a variety of ways to conduct courthouse business online (filing papers, paying assessments/fees, etc.). Please take advantage of these online options when possible instead of physically coming to the courthouse.
- To protect the health of courthouse personnel and visitors, commonly touched surfaces are being cleaned and disinfected frequently, hand sanitizer will be available in courtrooms and public offices, and social distancing practices will be facilitated by signage, spacing indicators, and seating arrangements.

COURT HEARINGS

- Remote hearings are strongly encouraged when feasible, depending on the nature of the hearing and the ability of parties to participate remotely.
- Individual judges may issue their own guidance on practices in certain courtrooms. Please refer to the Court's COVID-19 Information page for courtroom protocols.
<http://www.co.champaign.il.us/covid-19>
- Jury trials will resume June 15. Additional information will be provided to all prospective jurors with their jury summonses.

PROBATION AND COURT SERVICES

- Do not report to the Probation Office if you are sick. Contact your probation officer by telephone to reschedule.

- If you do not have a scheduled appointment, do not report to the Probation Office. Please telephone your probation officer to schedule an appointment.
- Occupancy of the Probation Office waiting room is limited to 12 persons. If capacity is reached, clients and other visitors will be asked to wait in the hallway.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

- Telephone appointments are preferred but limited office appointments will be available.
- Please call or email to schedule or confirm an appointment before coming to the courthouse to meet with your attorney. Contact information is listed below.

SELF-HELP CENTER

- The legal self-help center on the first floor of the courthouse is expected to open on June 8, 2020.
- Appointments must be scheduled ahead of time. Please see contact information below.
- With limited exceptions, only one person will be seen by help center personnel at a time.

WEDDINGS

- Weddings may be scheduled by calling (217) 384-3702.
- Only one wedding will be scheduled each day at 11:30.
- Each couple is permitted to bring no more than 8 guests.

CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE

- Due dates for assessment/fee payments have been extended for 180 days.
- Anyone who can conduct court business online should do so in lieu of visiting the courthouse.
 - Payment of assessments and fines: https://www.clericusmagnus.com/ePayOA_Champaign.htm
 - Electronic filing: <https://www.champaigncircuitclerk.org/forms-and-resources/electronic-filing/>

COVID-19 INFORMATION: <http://www.co.champaign.il.us/covid-19>
COURTHOUSE CONTACT INFORMATION

CIRCUIT COURT

www.co.champaign.il.us/circuitcourt/circuitcourt.php
courtadministrator@co.champaign.il.us

(217) 384-0154

Help Center scheduling (217) 384-3707

Wedding scheduling (217) 384-3702

JURY COORDINATOR

(217) 531-7408

CIRCUIT CLERK

www.champaigncircuitclerk.org/
cccircuitclerk@co.champaign.il.us

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

www.co.champaign.il.us/sheriff/sheriff.php

PUBLIC DEFENDER

(217) 384-3714

pd@co.champaign.il.us

PROBATION & COURT SERVICES

www.co.champaign.il.us/probation/courtservices.php
 (217) 384-3753

STATE'S ATTORNEY

www.co.champaign.il.us/statesattorney/statesattorney.php
 (217) 384-3733
statesatty@co.champaign.il.us