

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-M-22
Madison and Bond Counties

COVID-19 Court Operations by the Third Judicial Circuit

This Order applies to the Courts within the Third Judicial Circuit. The Resident Circuit Judge of Bond County is authorized to issue local orders, rules or protocols, consistent herewith, and for the limited purpose of implementing the provisions of this Order in that County.

WHEREAS, for those reasons mentioned in prior Third Circuit Administrative Orders entered and reference therein to various Orders of the Illinois Supreme Court (M.R. 30370), all dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, and after consultation with and input from the presiding judges in each judicial division and various local justice and governmental partners, including but not limited to, the Madison County Health Department, Sheriff's Department, and the Circuit Clerk's office, and;

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to update prior Administrative Orders, taking access to justice and public safety into account and upon considering guidance received from, but not limited to, the Illinois Supreme Court's May 20, 2020 Order M.R. 30370, *In re: Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency*, effective June 1, 2020;

WHEREFORE, the undersigned, as Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, hereby Orders as follows:

EVICTION CASES

Based upon recent rulings by Will County in Case #20-CH-601 concerning the practical effect of various executive orders on Eviction proceedings and the certification of those questions for appeal, the Court hereby stays all Orders of transfer of possession pending further Court Order.

All matters will be subject to further review of the present Executive Order 2020-48 (running through 8/22/2020) and the operation of the state emergency rental assistance program (operational beginning 8/10/2020).

As the complex issue of filings has not been clearly addressed by the Will County case, the Clerk will continue to accept the filing of eviction cases. However, further hearings will be stayed and no summons issued at this time. The Court will continue to evaluate cases for emergency hearing consistent with exemptions stated within the Governor's order regarding issues of immediate health, safety, and welfare.

All hearings in eviction cases will likewise be suspended and rescheduled pending further Order of Court.

The Court will continue to monitor the on-going legal and health issues as they develop and issue additional administrative orders as necessary.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is to notify all parties of record by posting on its website and emailing attorneys and by other appropriate means. This order shall be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Madison County, Illinois and that said order be made available to the members of the bar and public.

ENTER: August 12, 2020



William A. Mudge, Chief Judge