

**STANDING ORDER GOVERNING PETITIONS TO VACATE TAX SALE (“VTS”)
PROCEDURES FOR REMOTE HEARINGS**

Consistent with the General Administrative Orders entered by Chief Judge Evans regarding limited court operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning Monday, June 1, 2020, VTS petitions will be heard on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. If a hearing is necessary, or requested, such hearings will be conducted remotely via Zoom videoconferencing.

To facilitate these hearings, the Court requires the following steps be taken before each hearing date:

1. Petitioners shall provide copies of the Petitions and draft orders to the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office no less than seven (7) days in advance of the hearing date by 5 p.m. Petitions should be sent to sao.tax@cookcountyl.gov. The court date, calendar and time must be listed in the subject line. All petitions and draft orders must include the petitioner’s email address and telephone number.
2. The ASA shall respond to Petitioners within four (4) days whether there is an objection to the Petition. If there is an objection, the parties should confer and attempt to agree on how the petition should be presented to the Court, e.g., a briefing schedule or an evidentiary hearing.
3. No later than two (2) business days before the hearing, the Petitioner shall provide to the Court via the dedicated email account ccc.countyvts@cookcountyl.gov, the following:
 - a. A single pdf file containing all orders for matters on the call for which there is no objection on which a hearing is requested;
 - b. Petitions and draft orders for those matters for which there is an objection. If the Petitioner and ASA have reached an agreement regarding how the petition shall be presented, such procedure should be included in a draft order;
 - c. A list of matters for which no hearing is required;
 - d. A list of matters to be heard during the zoom hearing; and
 - e. All exhibits that will be offered during the hearings.

(All parties must be cc’d on all correspondence with the Court.)

4. The Court will enter orders on matters for which there is no objection without hearing.
5. The Court will provide the zoom conference information or designate which party shall host the zoom no later than one (1) day before the hearing. The parties will be responsible for providing this information to its witnesses and the court reporter. If a party is unable to participate via zoom videoconference, that party should utilize the teleconferencing to participate in the hearing.
6. Copies of orders entered will be sent via email to petitioner and the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office at sao.tax@cookcountyl.gov.

Entered: June 3, 2020

 #2169

Judge Maureen O. Hannon

 #2164

Judge Patrick T. Stanton