

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
LAW DIVISION

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 16-4
PROCEDURE FOR ADVANCED RANDOM ASSIGNMENT
OF COMPLEX CASES FOR TRIAL**

The Court recognizes the difficulty of scheduling witnesses, especially expert witnesses, in complex cases and the importance of trials starting on a date certain, therefore, as an accommodation to the attorneys, parties, and witnesses,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

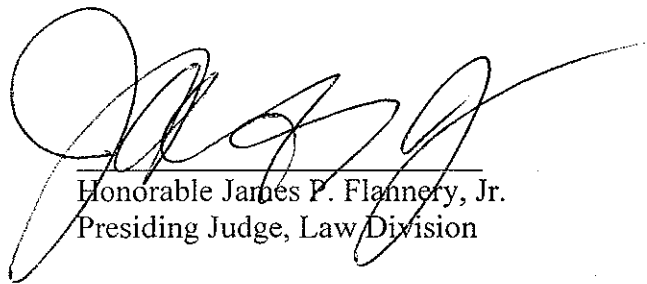
1. The procedure for advanced random assignment of complex cases for trial is hereby established.
2. To be considered for the advanced random assignment for trial, the selected case must be of a complicated nature with extensive expert witness testimony and numerous scheduling issues.
3. All cases must be set for trial at the time the parties present the motion or letter for assignment and the trial date shall be maintained upon assignment.
4. **All** parties must agree to **five (5)** Judges assigned to the Trial Section of the Law Division, who are available on the currently set trial date and who are agreeable to conducting the trial.
5. Parties who wish to utilize this type of trial assignment must contact the five agreed upon Judges and verify their availability on the currently set trial date. Upon verification, parties can present a motion before the Presiding Judge of the Law Division on the 10:30 am Daily Motion Call (M1) or present a letter to the Presiding Judge asking for this type of assignment.
6. The parties must agree to waive their statutory right, pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-1001(a)(2), for substitution of Judge as a matter of right.
7. The motion or letter must contain the following:
 - a. That All parties have agreed to seek this type of trial assignment.
 - b. That All parties have agreed to the five (5) Judges selected for this type of Assignment. (The motion or letter must list the five agreed upon Judges.)

- c. That the parties have contacted the agreed upon Judges and all of the Judges have consented to conduct the trial and have indicated that **they will be available for trial on the currently set trial date.** (Trial dates will not be continued to accommodate the selected Judges availability.)
8. Any motion or letter requesting this type of assignment **must** be presented to the Presiding Judge of the Law Division **at least** 30 days before the currently set trial date.
9. This type of assignment will be made randomly by the Court's computer and will be for trial **only**. All pre-trial discovery and motion practice shall remain before the assigned Motion Calendar Judge.
10. Once the Court's computer has generated a random assignment an agreed order will be entered indicating that all parties have agreed to and are in compliance with the provisions addressed in this General Administrative Order.
11. The advanced random trial assignment is different from and does not impede the authority of the Presiding Judge of the Law Division to assign pending and future filed cases to one (1) Judge when they arise out of the same incident or are deemed to be related. The current practice is to refer to the order authenticating this type of assignment as a "Sweep Order."

It is further ordered that this Order be spread upon the records of this court.

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 23rd day of March, 2016.

ENTERED:



Honorable James P. Flannery, Jr.
Presiding Judge, Law Division

JUDGE JAMES P. FLANNERY

MAR 23 2016

Circuit Court-1506