

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
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COUNTY OF COOK)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, LAW DIVISION

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 20-2
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR MOTION SECTION**

In light of Circuit Court General Administrative Order 2020-1, and due to the very high volume of cases heard by the Motion Judges in the Law Division Motion Section, and due to the scheduling difficulties and multiple court calls which would result from rescheduling the cases for a short period of time,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

CASE MANAGEMENT DATES: All cases set by order on the Motion Calls will be automatically reset for approximately eight (8) weeks (56 days) from the current date in the same rooms. This is to ensure that cases remain on their currently set business days of the week. There will be a calendar of future reset dates and times posted on the Law Division, Motion Section website. All motions scheduled on the Motion Calls will be stricken and will need to be rescheduled when court operations resume.

DEADLINES: All discovery deadlines, completion dates, and/or filing dates, currently contained in the existing case management orders, will be automatically extended to the future 8-week dates. New dates for those activities will be set in new case management orders. **Motions to compel or extend discovery dates are not valid emergency motions, and must not be filed.**

EMERGENCY MOTIONS: *(As amended March 23, 2020, pursuant to General Administrative Order 20-3)* An Emergency Judge will be available electronically from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, for presentation of “Valid” emergency motions only, such as emergencies adding parties or filing pleadings prior to the expiration of a statute of limitations, and/or orders of protection for preservation of evidence. Motions which do not constitute “Valid” emergencies will be stricken. Routine motions are not valid emergency motions but will be included in our settlement and dismissal procedures of 20-2.

PARTIES SHOULD E-MAIL:

Judge Kathy M. Flangan at (kathy.flanagan@cookcountyil.gov) for cases pending in rooms 2202 Cal. B, 2204 Cal. Z, 2206 Cal. A, 2208 Cal. R and 2210 Cal. E

Or

Judge Allen P. Walker at (ccc.lawcalendarz@cookcountyil.gov) for cases pending in rooms 2201 Cal. F, 2203 Cal. C, 2205 Cal. X, 2207 Cal. D and 2209 Cal. H

Upon receipt of the E-Mail the Emergency Judge will review the motion to determine if it is a "Valid" emergency. If the motion is not a "Valid" emergency, the Emergency Judge will respond as such via E-Mail.

If the motion is a "Valid" emergency, the Emergency Judge will rule on the motion as presented or schedule a hearing using some other means (i.e. conference call, Skype or Zoom) if necessary, and enter the appropriate order thereafter.

Based upon volume and changes in circumstances, these procedures may change and any such changes will be posted on the Law Division, Motion Section website.

- Please note that any party who does not have the ability to present an emergency motion electronically may call Motion Section Coordinator, Brian Robbin at 312-813-1457 for further instruction

FILING OF DOCUMENTS: If the filing of a document or pleading requires a court order, and is a valid emergency (i.e., statute of limitations expiring), please present an emergency motion to the emergency judge.

If a court order cannot be obtained, efile the document or pleading, without the order. The court order granting leave to do so can be obtained when court operations resume. Any such order will be entered retroactive to the date of the filing of the pleading or document.

All other orders granting leave to file documents or pleadings, which are not valid emergencies, will be entered when court operations resume. Please note: When in doubt, just file the document or pleading.

If the filing of a document requires the signature of a party, and the signature is unable to be obtained, efile the document or pleading, and the signed document or pleading can be filed when court operations resume.

DEPOSITION OBJECTIONS: If any depositions are conducted by agreement, and objections arise, the objections will be noted on the record, and the testimony will be taken over the objection, in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 206(f). A witness will not be instructed not to answer a question, unless the answer would violate a statutory or common law privilege. Judges will not be available to rule on deposition objections.

SETTLEMENT AND DISMISSAL ORDERS: Agreed orders for dismissals by settlement, voluntary dismissals (with no dispositive motions pending), petitions for approval of settlements, agreed motions for good faith findings and dismissals of some (not all) defendants, can be emailed to either of the following:

Judge Kathy M. Flanagan (kathy.flanagan@cookcountyil.gov) (even #s)

Judge Allen P. Walker (ccclawcalendarz@cookcountyil.gov) (odd #s)

All petitions for approval of Wrongful Death, Survival, Minors' and Disabled Persons' Settlements must comply with the Joint Memorandum on Settlements. Non-compliant petitions will be rejected, but may be resubmitted when and if required corrections are made.

Return email addresses must be included on all submissions. If no email addresses are provided, the submissions will not be ruled upon

INFORMATION CONTACT: Further information and questions on these procedures can be obtained by contacting Motion Section Coordinator Brian Robin at (312) 813-1457. Voice mail messages will be checked regularly, and returned with the requested information at the earliest time.

Nothing in this order shall affect the authority of this Court or the authority of the Motion Judges to modify this order as developments warrant or to exercise its discretion when necessary.

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

