

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FIRST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
GENERAL ORDER 2020 - 07**

**SUBJECT: Pilot Program to handle certain matters amidst the
Coronavirus Pandemic**

WHEREAS: Chief Judge Evans has entered a General Order effective May 1st, 2020 and extended modified court operations through May 31st, 2020 to ensure health and safety of court personnel and litigants.

WHEREAS: The Circuit Court of Cook County has determined that a pilot program is appropriate at this time to hear matters that may be resolved without the need for a large number of people and that may be heard in the presence of a maximum of two people from each side including the party representative and attorney.

WHEREAS: The following matters may be heard:

Motions for summary judgment limited to one per party within a two week period;

All agreed orders signed by both parties – provided to the court either *via* email or by personal appearance of one attorney or attorney representative, clerk;

All Motions to vacate judgment within 30 days – counsel only to appear, either in person or *via* zoom videoconference call;

All Motions or stipulations to Dismiss, Wage Garnishments, Non-Wage Garnishments or Third-Party Citations;

All contested motions fully briefed – argued in person by counsel or *via* zoom videoconference limited to one per party within a two week period;

All Motions to appoint Special Process Server;

All motions for Case Consolidation;

All Motions to Extend Discovery;

All Motions to Reset Trial Date;

All Motions to Compel Discovery;

All Requests for Pre Trial Settlement Conferences limited to one per party within a two week period;

All Motions to Request for Video Disposition *via* Zoom videoconference or other meeting room application;

All Motions for Leave to Take Discovery

Routine Motions such as: Status, Alias Summons, Release and Satisfaction;

Weddings by appointment (a maximum of four persons only including the couple).

WHEREAS: All currently set dates shall be stricken with new dates (as necessary) to be established by motion. Non-wage garnishments/third party citations which create liens on property should be given a priority for hearings. Actions to recover property, Replevins & Detinues, should also be given priority when setting hearings.

WHEREAS: The parties shall email the Clerk for all matters to be in Courtroom 1307 of the Daley Center.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: That only the cases ready to be heard shall be filed by the parties. The Court shall order a date within two business days after filing of the motion. All Notices, Motions, Briefs, Memorandums, Petitions should be filed electronically or *via* drop box provided by the Clerk of the Court in the West Lobby of the Daley Center.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: If a matter involves the State Attorney's Office or the Corporation Counsel, sufficient notice must be provided to them and the date in such matters shall be set by the Court.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: That a pilot program will be in existence effective May 6th, 2020 and it shall consider emergency cases and cases that may be heard with a limited number of people (a maximum of four including both sides) and such cases will consist of:

Motions for summary judgment limited to one per party within a two week period;

All agreed orders signed by both parties – provided to the court either *via* email or by personal appearance of one attorney or attorney representative, clerk;

All Motions to vacate judgment within 30 days – counsel only to appear, either in person or *via* zoom videoconference call;

All Motions or stipulations to Dismiss, Wage Garnishments, Non-Wage Garnishments or Third-Party Citations;

All contested motions fully briefed – argued in person by counsel or *via* zoom videoconference limited to one per party within a two week period;

All Motions to appoint Special Process Server;

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All Motions for Leave to Take Discovery

Routine Motions such as: Status, Alias Summons, Release and Satisfaction;

Weddings by appointment (a maximum of four persons only including the couple).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: No one should be allowed in a courtroom without permission from the Judge. Everyone entering the courtroom for an in person hearing must wear a mask and gloves.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED: That all the hearings for aforementioned cases will only be set by appointment and the parties shall request the court for hearings *via* zoom videoconferencing or teleconferencing. Unless all parties and the Court agrees that they have the capability and equipment to have hearing *via* zoom videoconferencing or teleconferencing, then the hearing will be in attendance with no more than four persons at the hearing. This Order shall be circulated through the 1st Municipal Advisory Committee.

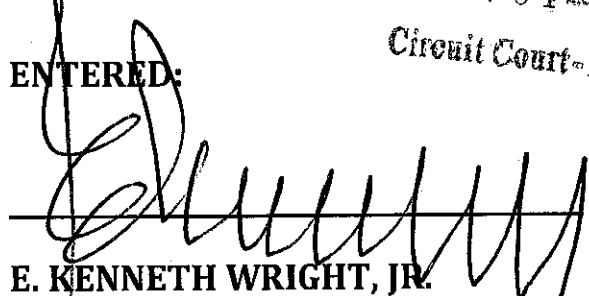
Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 1st day of May 2020.

Presiding Judge
E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.

MAY 04 2020

Circuit Court-1624

ENTERED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

E. KENNETH WRIGHT, JR.
PRESIDING JUDGE
FIRST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT