

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-5-21

FILED

MAY 21 2020

A.W.W.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2020, the Illinois Supreme Court entered Order, M.R. 303070, Illinois Courts Response to COVID-19 Emergency; and

WHEREAS, paragraph five (5) of said Order states as follows:

"Effective June 1, 2020, the Court's order of March 17, 2020, is modified so that each circuit may return to hearing court matters, whether in person or remotely, according to a schedule to be adopted for each county by the chief judge in each circuit. The circuit courts shall continue, to the extent possible, to allow for appropriate social distancing and attempt to reduce the number of persons appearing personally for court appearances."

The Chief Judge, First Judicial Circuit, designates the Presiding Judge of each county to adopt a schedule for hearing court matters. Judges shall continue, to the extent possible, to allow for appropriate social distancing and attempt to reduce the number of persons appearing personally for court appearances.

WHEREAS, paragraph nine (9) of said Order states as follows:

"The Chief Judges of each circuit may continue trials until further order of this Court. The continuances occasioned by this Order serve the ends of justice and outweigh the best interests of the public and defendants in a speedy trial. Therefore, such continuances shall be excluded from speedy trial computations contained in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 (725 ILCS 5/103-5 (West 2018)) and section 5-601 of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act (705 ILCS 405/5-601 (West 2018)). Statutory time restrictions in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 and section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act shall be tolled until further order of this Court. This provision also applies when a trial is delayed when the court determines proper distancing and facilities limitations prevent the trial from proceeding safely. The judge in the case must find that such limitations necessitated the delay and shall make a record thereof."

The Chief Judge, First Judicial Circuit, designates the judge assigned to a criminal or civil case to make the determination, to decide, whether a trial is to be continued. If a trial is continued due to proper distancing and facilities' limitations causing the continuance, the delay, the judge assigned to that case must find that such limitations necessitate the continuance, the delay, and shall make a record of such finding.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 21st day of May, 2020

ENTERED:

James R. Williamson

James R. Williamson
Chief Judge