

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2007-15

SUBJECT: PRE-ELECTION LITIGATION

Effective November 14, 2007, the following procedures will apply to all litigation initiated prior to the date of any election which may impact on the conduct of that election. Such litigation shall include, for purposes of illustration and not limitation, challenges to decisions of an electoral board regarding the placement of a candidate or proposition on the ballot, the proposed conduct of an election or any other matter which will affect the conduct of the election:

1. Upon the filing of the matter, the Clerk of court shall randomly assign the case among the several Calendars of the County Division;
2. Upon acceptance of the filing and receipt of the Calendar assignment from the Clerk, counsel for the Petitioner/Plaintiff shall promptly schedule the matter for initial presentment and or hearing before the Judge assigned to the designated Calendar. This may be done at the county Division Motion Desk located on the 12th Floor of the Richard J. Daley Center or in the Office of the Presiding Judge of the County Division, room 1701. The date for presentment/hearing shall be no later than two business days after the filing. A courtesy copy of all pleadings to be presented to the Court shall be delivered to the Office of the Presiding Judge for delivery to the appropriate Calendar at the time of scheduling. The date and time scheduled should be noted on the front page of the courtesy copy. If the Petitioner/Plaintiff fails to present the matter within two business days, any party may move to schedule the matter for presentment/hearing.
3. If the Calendar to which the case is randomly assigned is not available because the designated Judge is assigned to Calendar 2 (Mental Health Proceedings) or is otherwise absent from Court for an extended period of time (e.g. vacation, illness, attendance at a seminar), counsel for the Petitioner/Plaintiff shall request an administrative re-assignment or substitution of judge from the Presiding Judge by presenting a Motion requesting such relief on the Emergency Motion Call for

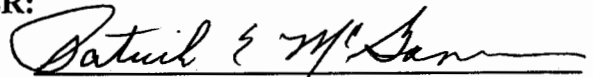
Calendar 3. The Call is held at 9:00 a.m. daily in courtroom 1703. If no party has been served, the Motion may be made *ex parte*. The Presiding Judge reserves the right to schedule the matter before the originally designated Calendar *sua sponte* upon consultation with the designated judge in *lieu* of granting an administrative re-assignment;

4. Counsel for the Plaintiff/Petitioner shall deliver or cause to be delivered a copy of the Complaint/Petition together with notice of the scheduled date for hearing and copies of any motions together with any orders entered *ex parte* to Counsel for the Respondents, if known, within one business day of scheduling the matter for initial presentation/hearing, unless the matter is an Emergency. In such cases, notice shall be given in a manner that is reasonable under all relevant circumstances. If counsel for a respondent is unknown or a respondent is not represented, then notice of the hearing and copies of Plaintiff/Petitioner's papers shall be delivered to the last known address of that respondent. If the matter involves the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, notice shall be given to James M. Scanlon, James M. Scanlon & Associates, 8 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 3500, Chicago, Illinois 60603. If the matter involves an election in suburban Cook County or a decision of the Cook County Officers Electoral Board, notice shall be given to Assistant State's Attorney Donna M. Lach, 500 Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.
5. In order to ensure adequate opportunity for Appellate Court review of the decisions of this Court, these cases will be scheduled on an expedited basis. Counsel for the Plaintiff/Petitioner is directed to act expeditiously to effect service on all necessary parties. Service shall be made as provided by statute.

6. Counsel is advised that the County Division is no longer able to provide court reporters in these cases. The parties should make arrangements for court reporters to attend all hearings.

Dated this 9th day of November 2007 and spread upon the records of this Court.

ENTER:



Patrick E. McGann
Presiding Judge

