

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: 2025 D 1 Amended

SUBJECT: Remote and In Person Proceedings in the Domestic Relations Division

The purpose of this General Administrative Order is to standardize procedures for remote and in-person proceedings in the Domestic Relations Division. At times, remote proceedings reduce cost, increase efficiency, and provide greater access to justice for litigants. At other times, remote proceedings lead to incivility, delay proceedings, hinder effective communication, and procrastinate access to justice. This General Administrative Order balances the diverse needs of Cook County litigants, lawyers, and judges in order to promote the efficient and effective administration of cases.

This General Administrative Order shall be read in conjunction with Illinois Supreme Court Rules 45 and 241, Administrative Order 2022 D 1, and all other existing orders issued by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County and Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Division.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

(a) Matters presumptively held via remote access or in person:

1. Status hearings shall be heard via the court's remote access technology, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (b) below.
2. Initial presentments of regular motions shall be heard via the court's remote access technology, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (b) below.
3. Emergency motions shall be presented in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (c) below.
4. *Ex-parte* emergency orders of protection shall be heard via the court's remote access technology, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (b) below. *Ex-parte* emergency orders of protection filed at the Domestic Violence Courthouse shall remain governed by Administrative Order 2022 DV 04 and Administrative Order 2022 D 14.
5. Initial returns on emergency orders of protection shall be heard via the court's remote access technology, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (b) below.
6. Case management conferences shall be heard in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (c) below.
7. Pretrial settlement conferences shall be heard in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (c) below.
8. Summary proceedings, including temporary child support, temporary maintenance, and interim attorney fee hearings, shall be heard in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding under paragraph (c) below.
9. Evidentiary hearings and trials shall be heard in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding for good cause shown under paragraph (c) below.

10. Stipulated and default prove ups shall be heard via the court's remote access technology. If the requirements of General Administrative Order 2022 D 5 are not met at the remote court date, the Court reserves the right to reschedule subsequent hearings in-person to ensure compliance with the General Administrative Order. Prove Ups via Affidavit shall remain governed by General Administrative Order 2025 D 2.

11. The Incarcerated Litigants Call shall continue to be heard be heard via the court's remote access technology pursuant to Administrative Order 2022 D 11.

(b) In accordance with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 45(b), the judge presiding over a matter may deviate from the standard protocols above for remote access and require a case participant to attend a court proceeding in person for reasons particular to the specific case, including the failure of a case participant to follow applicable standards of decorum.

(c) Nothing in this General Administrative Order shall prohibit a judge from utilizing remote access technology for hybrid proceedings on a case-by-case basis, as the judge presiding deems appropriate.

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2, 2025, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

All initial pleadings filed by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, including petitions for declaration of parentage, petitions for child support, petitions for modification of child support, petitions for rule to show cause, and petitions to enroll a foreign judgment shall be heard via the court's remote access technology. Continued matters and statuses shall be heard via the court's remote access technology. Evidentiary hearings and contempt proceedings following the issuance of a rule to show cause shall be heard in person, unless otherwise ordered by the judge presiding on a case-by-case basis.

Dated this 15th day of August 2025. This Order shall be spread upon the records of this Court and published. This Order amends General Administrative Order 2025 D 1, which was entered on April 23, 2025.

ENTERED:

Judge Regina A. Scannicchio

AUG 01 2025

Circuit Court-2059



Hon. Regina A. Scannicchio

Presiding Judge

Domestic Relations Division