

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

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 2026-01**

**SUBJECT: Court Operations During Weather Emergency**

On the basis of current, active weather alerts by the National Weather Service that are reliably predicting extremely low air temperatures and wind chills in Cook County on Friday, January 23, 2026; it appearing that said conditions might adversely impact the safety and welfare of judges, court system employees, and persons having business with the court; and to ensure that no one is unnecessarily exposed to potentially hazardous conditions,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, will be closed Friday, January 23, 2026, except as provided herein;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that initial appearance and detention hearings shall be conducted by the Pretrial Division at the Leighton Criminal Courthouse at 2600 S. California Ave., Chicago, 60608, and will be held according to the court's weekend and holiday schedule;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that juvenile detention hearings will be held pursuant to the Juvenile Justice Division's weekend protocol;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that cases in the Domestic Violence Division shall be scheduled as follows:

Initial appearance and detention hearings shall be conducted by the Pretrial Division at the Leighton Criminal Courthouse at 2600 S. California Ave., Chicago, 60608, pursuant to the court's weekend and holiday schedule;

All other existing cases previously scheduled for Friday, January 23, 2026, are rescheduled to Friday, January 30, 2026;

Any litigant seeking an emergency order of protection while court is closed against a family or household member, as defined by the Illinois Domestic Violence Act, may request a remote hearing through the court's After-Hours Emergency Order of Protection program (operating each Monday through Friday 9:00p.m.-3:00a.m. and Saturday and Sunday 1:00p.m.-6:00p.m.) by visiting Illinois Legal Aid Online at <https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/legal-information/emergency-order-protection-cook-county> or by contacting the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline in Chicago: 1-877-TO END DV (voice) or 1-877- 863-6338 (Voice) or 1-877-863-6339 (TTY) for assistance;

All types of civil protective orders expiring January 23, 2026, are automatically extended to February 13, 2026. All pending petitions where no order is in place shall be continued for status hearing to February 13, 2026. The clerk shall enter this order into the record of each case to which it applies and shall cause the extension of the order to be entered into LEADS and notice of the extended order to be sent to all petitioners and only those respondents who have been previously served with any pending petition for protective order or resulting order;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that domestic violence advocacy, assistance with after-hours hearings, or information about a civil or criminal order of protection may be obtained by contacting:

Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline in Chicago: 1-877-TO END DV (voice) or 1-877-863-6338 (Voice) or 1-877-863-6339 (TTY)

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, except as provided above, all cases previously scheduled for Friday, January, 23, 2026, shall be rescheduled by order of the Presiding Judge of each division and district of the court, cases will be continued to the next key date where applicable, and the circuit clerk shall send notice of the new court dates.

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2026, and effective immediately.

**ENTER:**

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Charles S. Beach II  
Chief Judge