



State of Illinois
Circuit Court of Cook County

Charles S. Beach, II
Chief Judge

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GENERAL ORDER NO. 12 - Operation

The judiciary of the Circuit Court of Cook County is composed of the County Department, the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Department, and the Municipal Department.

The County Department consists of the Law Division, County Division, Chancery Division, Domestic Relations Division, Probate Division, Pretrial Division, Domestic Violence Division, and Criminal Division.

The Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Department consists of the Juvenile Justice Division and Child Protection Division.

The Municipal Department consists of the First Municipal District, Second Municipal District, Third Municipal District, Fourth Municipal District, Fifth Municipal District, and Sixth Municipal District.

The Chief Judge, pursuant to their general administrative authority under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 2I(e), shall designate a Deputy Chief Judge of Criminal and a Deputy Chief Judge of Civil.

The Deputy Chief Judge of Criminal is authorized by the Chief Judge to assist in the performance of the Chief Judge's duties as directed. The mission of the Deputy Chief of Criminal is to foster improved communication, facilitate prompt problem-solving, and ensure the criminal and quasi-criminal courtrooms operate with increased efficiency and consistency, providing crucial support for judges. The Deputy Chief of Criminal may issue and review general administrative orders as authorized by the Chief Judge, and coordinate the operations of the Domestic Violence Division, Criminal Division, Juvenile Justice Division, the Felony Preliminary Hearing Section, Misdemeanor Section and Traffic Section of the First Municipal District, as well as the criminal calls, traffic calls, and ordinance violations calls within the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Municipal Districts relating to all criminal and quasi-criminal matters and procedures.

The Deputy Chief Judge of Civil is authorized by the Chief Judge to assist in the performance of the Chief Judge's duties as directed. The mission of the Deputy Chief of Civil is to foster improved communication, facilitate prompt problem-solving, and ensure the civil courtrooms operate with increased efficiency and consistency, providing crucial support for judges. The Deputy Chief of Civil may issue and review general administrative orders as authorized by the Chief Judge, and coordinate the operations of the Law Division, County Division, Chancery

Division, Domestic Relations Division, Probate Division, the Child Protection Division, the Forcible Entry and Detainer Section, Housing Section, and Civil Section of the First Municipal District, and the civil calls within the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Municipal Districts relating to all civil matters and procedures.

The Deputy Chief Judge of First Appearance Court is authorized by the Chief Judge to assist in the performance of the Chief Judge's duties as directed. The mission of the Deputy Chief of First Appearance Court is to foster improved communication, facilitate prompt problem-solving, and ensure the first appearance courtrooms operate with increased efficiency and consistency, providing crucial support for judges. The Deputy Chief of First Appearance Court may issue and review general administrative orders as authorized by the Chief Judge, and coordinate the operations of the Pretrial Division, Domestic Violence Division, Juvenile Justice Division, and the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Municipal Districts relating to first appearance matters and procedures.

For each division within the County Department, the Juvenile Justice Division and Child Protection Department, and the Municipal Department, the Chief Judge, pursuant to their general administrative authority under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 21(e), shall designate a Presiding Judge and may designate a Deputy Presiding Judge. Presiding Judges are granted general administrative powers within their divisions and are authorized by the Chief Judge to issue general administrative orders governing the operation of their divisions, provided that such general administrative orders do not conflict with the Illinois Supreme Court Rules, the statutes of the State, the Cook County Local Court Rules, and the general orders issued by the Chief Judge of Cook County or the Deputy Chief Judges of Criminal and Civil. Deputy Presiding Judges within each division shall serve as acting Presiding Judges in the absence of the Presiding Judge or as directed by the Chief Judge.

Entered: _____
Charles S. Beach, II, Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

Dated: 12/5/2025 _____