

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION**

GENERAL ORDER 26-1

RE: DIGITAL RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

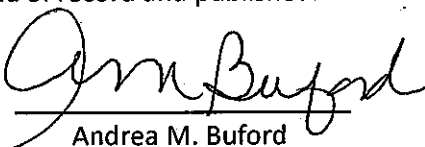
The Illinois Supreme Court has provided that circuit court proceedings may be recorded verbatim by a certified court reporter or by digital electronic recording equipment ("digital recording"), subject to regulations of the Administrative Office of the Illinois courts and Order of the Court.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND UNTIL FURTHER ORDER OF COURT,**

1. Courtroom 14N is currently covered by digital recording equipment.
2. After a period of training courtrooms 6F, 12L, and 17K will be recorded verbatim by digital recording equipment.
3. No individual other than the Circuit or Associate Judge assigned to the case may obtain or listen to copies of digital recordings of the proceedings without order of the Presiding Judge of the Child Protection Division.
4. Digital recordings of proceedings shall remain under the control of the Circuit Court of Cook County with access to such recordings subject to regulations set by Illinois law including, but not limited to, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, Circuit Court of Cook County Local Rules, and such general or administrative orders as may be entered by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County or the Presiding Judge of the Child Protection Division, except that no party shall be entitled to request a transcript from digital recording when a transcript of the official court reporter's notes constitutes the official record.
5. Digital recordings of proceedings shall be disseminated by transcript prepared by the digital recording control room staff. The transcript and not the medium shall be the official record. A certificate is to be signed and attached to the transcript by the digital recording control room staff member stating that, to the best of his/her ability, the transcript is a true and accurate transcript of the digitally recorded proceeding.
6. All digital recording transcript requests shall be in writing and submitted to the digital recording control room supervisor and shall be subject to the policies set by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

This General Order supersedes Special Order 09-29.

This order is entered this date, 8-5-2026 and shall be spread of record and published.



Andrea M. Buford
Presiding Judge
Child Protection Division