

limitations prevent the trial from proceeding safely. The judge in the case must find that such limitations necessitated the delay and shall make a record thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Order M.R. 30370 (effective May 20, 2020), and Administrative Order 20-25 (effective May 26th, 2020) the Chief Judge of the 18th Judicial Circuit orders that all trials may be continued until further order of the Illinois Supreme Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Circuit and Associate Judges of the 18th Judicial Circuit are authorized to continue trials pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Order M.R. 30370 (effective May 20, 2020) and Administrative Order 20-25 (effective May 26th, 2020).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that such continuances shall be excluded from speedy trial computations contained in section 103.5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 (725 ILCS 5/103-5 (West 2018)) and section 5-601 of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act (705 ILCS 405/5-601 (West 2018)). Statutory time restrictions in section 103-5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 and section 5-601 of the Juvenile Court Act shall be tolled until further order of this Court. This provision also applies when a trial is delayed when the Court determines proper distancing and facilities limitations prevent the trial from proceeding safely. The judge in the case must find that such limitations necessitated the delay and shall make a record thereof.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no jury trials in any division shall be conducted before March 1st, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no in-person bench trials or evidentiary hearings requiring witness testimony shall be conducted in the Felony or Misdemeanor Divisions (except for Summary Suspension Hearings) before March 1st, 2021 except for matters scheduled in traffic court beginning on February 1st, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in-person trials or extended hearings in the Domestic Relations Division may proceed only if the matter is determined to be exigent by the judge presiding over the case. Exigent matters in Domestic Relations are cases which require immediate action or are urgent and in need of immediate relief regarding parenting issues or economic issues which if left unattended could cause irreparable harm to the parties or marital estate.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in-person bench trials in the Law and Chancery Divisions may proceed in the sole discretion of the judge presiding over the case.

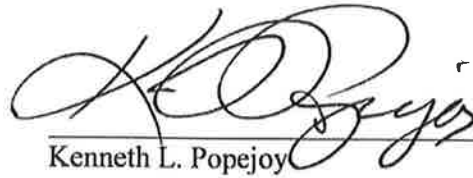
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that judges will reschedule trials to a future trial or status date pursuant to this Administrative Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that judges and courthouse staff may work remotely whenever practicable and when in accordance with any policy, procedure, schedule or directive established by a supervisor.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the court may issue orders, as necessary, to address the changing circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Entered this 20th day of January 2021 and effective immediately.

ENTER: *Jan 20, 2021*


Kenneth L. Popejoy
Chief Judge

Dated: January 20, 2021
Wheaton, Illinois