

**In re: 31st Judicial Circuit
Springfield Municipal Division
Mandatory implementation of statewide
court automation system**

ORDER FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF COURT AUTOMATION SYSTEM

Whereas, Article 5, § 4 of the Missouri Constitution confers upon the Supreme Court of Missouri supervisory authority over all courts; and

Whereas, Article 5, § 15 of the Missouri Constitution confers upon the presiding judge of each judicial circuit the general administrative authority over the circuit court and its divisions, and

Whereas, pursuant to § 479.020.5 RSMo the presiding judge of the judicial circuit has general administrative authority over the judges and court personnel of the municipal divisions within the circuit; and

Whereas, a judge selected under the provisions of § 479.020 RSMo is a municipal judge, and a judge of the municipal division of the circuit court of the judicial circuit in which the municipality is located; and

Whereas, pursuant to § 479.070 RSMo, the docket and records kept by the municipal judge in a division of the circuit court are records of the circuit court; and

Whereas, in the exercise of its constitutional supervisory authority, the Supreme Court of Missouri has enacted Court Operating Rule 4.01 adopting the Missouri statewide court automation system as the uniform record keeping system for the circuit courts and mandating its use as to the form, style and maintenance of records dealing with municipal cases; and

Whereas, pursuant to Court Operating Rule 4.01. the Supreme Court has mandated the use of the statewide court automation system in a particular municipal division of a circuit court from and after such date as the statewide court automation system is available for implementation in that division; and

Whereas, the Missouri Court Automation Committee has certified that the statewide court automation system is available for implementation on January 1, 2021, in the Springfield Municipal Division of the 31st Judicial Circuit, Greene County; and

Whereas the Springfield Municipal Division is currently presided over by the Honorable Todd Thornhill, Chief Municipal Judge, and the Honorable Wendy Garrison, John Applequist and Matthew Owen, Provisional Municipal Judges.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to the general administrative authority granted under the Missouri Constitution and § 479.020.5 RSMo to the presiding judge of the 31st Judicial Circuit, that neither the said Chief Municipal Judge Thornhill, or Municipal Judges Garrison, Applequist or Owen, being all of the judges of the Springfield Municipal Division of the Circuit Court of Greene County, nor any court personnel in that municipal division shall accept for filing or take any other action related to an information alleging a violation of an ordinance of the City of Springfield on or after January 1, 2021, unless the judicial record of such filing and all subsequent judicial records of actions related to that information are made and maintained in the statewide court automation system as mandated by the Supreme Court of Missouri in Court Operating Rule 4.01.

Dated: 10/26/2020



Michael J. Cordonnier
Presiding Judge
31st Judicial Circuit