FILED
JUL 31 2020
Clerk of the Circuit Court



# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
# OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
# STATE OF ILLINOIS

## Sangamon County Administrative Order 2020-16
## Sangamon County Courthouse Procedures for COVID-19 Coronavirus

**WHEREAS,** The Sangamon County Courts will take all reasonable measures to minimize personal contact to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

**Whereas,** The Illinois Supreme Court has entered an Order in M.R. 30370 instructing the courts to continue to establish and periodically update temporary procedures to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on the court system, while continuing to provide access to justice.

**Whereas,** infection within the jail staff has been reported within the last 24 hours mandating a lockdown of the facility that will prevent movement of inmates and effectively preclude court appearances.

**Whereas,** jury trials in Sangamon County have been exclusively reserved for criminal defendants incarcerated in the county jail since they resumed on July 20, 2020 and that the courts recognize that it may still be required for the ends of justice to be served to conduct such a jury trial if the parties are fully prepared for trial, and the trial can be conducted safely for all parties and participants.

**Whereas,** The Illinois Supreme Court order entered in M.R 30370 authorizing the continuance of all criminal proceedings until further order of the court remains in full force and effect.

**Whereas,** the courts recognize that a video appearance for limited proceedings may still be required for the ends of justice to be served during the period of lockdown of the jail facility.

**Whereas,** video appearances will continue to be required to process newly arrested inmates for purposes of arraignment or establishing bond.

**WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED,** that the following operational modifications to Sangamon County criminal proceedings shall be effective immediately, and shall continue until further order of the court:

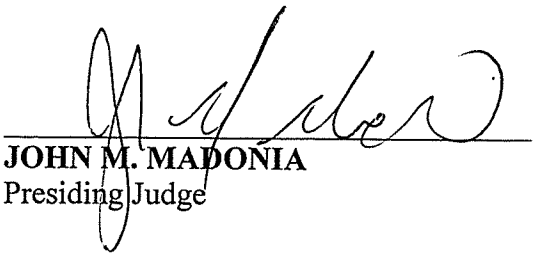
**Suspension of Inmate Appearances for All Contested and Status Hearings**: All cases docketed for appearance on criminal matters in which the defendant is in custody shall be continued for a period in excess of 14, but not to exceed 30 days, without the defendant's appearance before the court. Notice of the continuance date shall be provided to the jail through an administrative process approved by the presiding judge, and proof of service of each continuance shall be sent to the inmate in the jail facility.

**Specific Authorization Required for any Appearance:** In the case of an emergency motion filed on behalf of an incarcerated defendant, a hearing shall only be docketed during the lock down period with the express authorization of the judge presiding over the defendant's case, and in the event a hearing is authorized, the appearance shall be limited to video.

**Daily Arraignment and Bond Appearances:** Newly arrested inmates of the Sangamon County Jail shall continue to appear for video arraignment and bond hearings, including video appearances on Sunday mornings, under the current operating schedule and procedures.

**Suspension of Jury Trials**: Unless specifically authorized as set forth herein, jury trials are suspended until further order of the court. A criminal defendant, incarcerated in the Sangamon County Jail, may proceed with a jury trial if, after all parties have answered ready for trial, the judge presiding over the case approves the case to remain docketed for jury trial, and the presiding judge of Sangamon County thereafter authorizes for jurors to be summoned for selection as scheduled after assessing and considering the totality of all safety concerns affecting the jury process.

ENTERED THIS 31ST DAY OF July, 2020.



**JOHN M. MADONIA**
Presiding Judge