

STATE OF ILLINOIS
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PUTNAM COUNTY



James A. Mack
Resident Circuit Judge

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release

March 16, 2020

**COURTHOUSE REMAINS OPEN, PRECAUTIONS TAKEN,
COURT RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE**

The Putnam County Court remains open and will continue to monitor local and state health responses to the COVID-19. Out of an abundance of caution, the Resident Circuit Judge of Putnam County has directed the following steps be taken to reduce the number of people entering the courthouse for court business.

RESTRICTED ACCESS: See attached Administrative Order 2020 - 02 re: court appearances.

COURT FACILITIES: Cleaning and disinfecting efforts have been intensified, especially regarding commonly touched surfaces.

JURY SERVICE: The Court system cannot function without juries. We are, however, taking steps to minimize the number of jurors summoned for service. This will result in a less congested environment and increase personal space.

MARRIAGES: Marriage ceremonies will continue to be performed at the courthouse as needed. However, only the couple being married and no more than four (4) guests will be allowed.

REMOTE APPEARANCES: Attorneys and litigants already have access to appear remotely in certain cases. The types of cases where remote access will be allowed has been expanded.

EMPLOYEES AND STAFF: All court staff have been reminded to use good personal health habits as recommended by the CDC, and we ask all visitors to do the same. This includes cleaning hands often, avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, avoiding close contact, and covering coughs and sneezes with tissue or elbows.

PROBATION AND PRE-TRIAL SERVICES: Stay in contact with these officers about courthouse visits and follow their directions.

COURTHOUSE TOURS: School tours and the like are canceled until further notice.

TRAFFIC TICKETS: The public is reminded that certain traffic tickets can be paid by mail, or online. For information call (815) 925-7016.

The Court will continue to meet its required duties under law, but with appropriate flexibility in light of current public health concerns. For more information on all of the above and more, visit Putnam County Health Department's Website at bchealthdepartment.org or Putnam County's Website www.co.putnam.il.us or the Tenth Judicial Circuit's website at: 10thcircuitcourtil.org.