

**McHenry County, Illinois: Family Division:
Standing Order 21-01:**

***Guidelines to Attorneys and Litigants in Family Division Cases and to Promote Consistent,
Efficient Treatment of Cases***

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Judges of the Family Division, the following procedures shall be followed in Courtrooms 359 (Judge Hansen), 360 (Judge Hirsch), 361 (Judge Facchini), and 365 (Judge Zalud):

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Standing Order is to provide guidelines to attorneys and litigants in family division cases and to promote consistent, efficient treatment of cases.
2. **Schedule for Courtrooms 359, 360 and 361.**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
8:30 a.m.	Special setting at judge's discretion, generally used for pre-trial and trial conferences, cases involving many parties, status dates that often take longer, acceptance of agreed/uncontested orders
9:00 a.m.	Returns on summons; presentment of motions; status dates; case management conferences
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Hearings on contested matters, including summary proceedings (e.g., temporary support) and with limited evidentiary issues (e.g., rules to show cause); pretrial conferences and trial conferences.
	Note: The 11:00 am setting will no longer be available for presentment or status, except as scheduled by the court.
1:00 p.m.	Special setting at judge's discretion, generally used for cases with scheduling difficulties, cases involving many parties, status dates that often take longer; pretrial conferences and trial conferences.
1:30 p.m.	Trials and other matters specifically set by the Court.

3. **Remote Appearances.**

A. *Non-evidentiary matters.* Participants in non-evidentiary matters may appear via Zoom, without further notice or motion. This includes hearings that are argument only or summary in nature. However, to ensure good communication, parties and counsel are encouraged to coordinate ahead of time so that whenever possible, all parties and counsel appear either in person or remotely.

B. *Evidentiary matters.* Pursuant to Ill. Sup. Ct. R. 241, the court may, upon request or on its own order, for good cause shown and upon appropriate safeguards, allow a case participant to testify or otherwise participate in an evidentiary hearing by Zoom.

C. *Prove-ups.* Participants in prove-up proceedings may appear via Zoom, without further notice or motion. To ensure good communication, parties and counsel are encouraged to coordinate ahead of time so that whenever possible, all parties and counsel appear either in person or remotely.

D. *Orders of Protection and No Contact.* Pursuant to Administrative Order 2020-17 and Ill. Supreme Court Rules 45 and 241, petitioners may present petitions for emergency orders of protection, stalking no contact orders and civil no contact orders remotely; by Zoom. The above rules shall apply to the remainder of the court proceedings related to these petitions.

E. *Other emergency motions.* Other than petitions for orders of protection, stalking no contact orders, and civil no contact orders, a party presenting an emergency motion shall do so in person.

4. **Electronic submission of orders.** Unless otherwise directed by the assigned judge, all proposed orders, judgments, and agreements shall be emailed to the court solely via the following email: familydivision@22ndcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov. Emails shall not be sent to or filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Emails may contain a brief explanation and description of what is being submitted, but must not include any other kind of communication to the assigned judge.
5. **Certain orders rescinded.** Effective with the date of this order, the following orders are rescinded: Standing Order 2020-01 (Pre-trial Settlement Conferences); Standing Order 2020-03 (Hearings on a Summary Basis); and Amended Standing Order 2020-05 (Remote Proceedings).
6. **Certain orders remaining in effect.** The following orders remain in effect: Standing Order 2020-02 (Entry of Final Judgments and Parenting Allocation Judgments); Standing Order 2020-04 (Mediation).

So entered and ordered this 12th day of July, 2021.

Judge Justin M. Hansen.

Presiding Judge, Family Division

Judge Jeffrey L. Hirsch

Judge Robert J. Zalud

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