

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION**

GENERAL ORDER: 2020 D 3


SUBJECT: Procedure to Submit Emergency Motions in Response to General Administrative Order No. 2020-01

EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2020 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Any emergency pleading or motion brought pursuant to Cook County Court Rule 13.4(a)(ii) in a Domestic Relations matter shall be submitted by email to court staff at VRP.domesticrelations@cookcountyil.gov by 4:00 p.m. the evening preceding the day that the motion is to be presented, unless the emergency occurs overnight. Parties shall notify the opposing parties and/or counsel by carbon copying them to the email.
2. Court staff shall forward the pleading or motion to the Emergency Judge scheduled the following day pursuant to General Administrative Order No. 2020-01. The Emergency Judge shall review the pleading or motion and determine whether a *prima facie* case of an emergency has been established. Court staff will then notify the parties by email of the outcome of the determination and next steps by 8:30 a.m.
3. If a *prima facie* case of an emergency has not been established, the court will either: (1) enter an order denying the pleading or motion as a non-emergency, or (2) enter an order denying the pleading or motion as non-emergency and referring the case to an approved mediator for no more than a two-hour remote conference without cost. If parties should come to an agreement with the assistance of the mediator, parties may submit the proposed order pursuant to General Administrative Order 2020 D 4. Parties shall be free to refile the matter to be heard once court resumes regular scheduling.
4. If a *prima facie* case is established, the court will either: (1) enter an *ex parte* order, (2) allow the Respondent time to respond, (3) conduct a telephonic or Zoom hearing with both parties, or (4) as a last resort, have the parties and/or attorneys appear for hearing.
5. This Order shall not apply to Emergency Orders of Protection.

Dated the 16 th day of March 2020. This Order shall be spread upon the records of this Court and published.

ENTERED:


HON. GRACE G. DICKLER
Presiding Judge
Domestic Relations Division

Presiding Judge
Grace G. Dickler

MAR 16 2020

Circuit Court -- 1521