



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE  
18th Judicial Circuit Court • DuPage County, Illinois

KENNETH L. POPEJOY  
Chief Judge]

March 11, 2022

**PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*  
*Office of the Chief Judge*  
*505 North County Farm Road*  
*Wheaton, Illinois 60187*

**CHIEF JUDGE REMOVES SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENT IN FELONY AND MISDEMEANOR  
COURTROOMS**

Chief Judge Kenneth L. Popejoy announced today that social distancing requirements will be removed in the Felony and Misdemeanor Courtrooms effective Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

During his State of the Courthouse address at the DuPage County Bar Association's Mega Meeting, Chief Judge Popejoy stated "We are moving towards returning to normal, but it will be a new normal with the advantage and continuation of Zoom procedures available to all. Zoom technology has been an upgrade in the mechanism and procedures of our day-to-day courtroom functions and there is no need to terminate its effectiveness or efficiency."

The 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit continues to prioritize the health and safety of the employees and visitors to the courthouse. Entry to the courthouse will continue to be prohibited if a person has regular close contact or resides with a person currently sick with COVID-19 and are not themselves fully vaccinated, has new flu-like symptoms or has been directed by a medical professional to quarantine or isolate.

Through CARES Act funding allocated by the DuPage County Board, the courthouse has been equipped with a state-of-the-art ventilation system which continuously circulates and disinfects the air in addition to thermal screening at the entrances to the courthouse. These improvements, along with technology upgrades, have allowed the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit to continue the efficient administration of justice throughout the pandemic.

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**Contact:**  
**Suzanne Armstrong**  
**Court Administrator**  
**630-407-8901**