

STATE OF ILLINOIS
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
EFFECTIVE JULY 6, 2026

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Chief Judge by Article VI, Section 7(c) of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, the judicial assignments in the Fourth Judicial Circuit for the period from July 6, 2026, until further order of the Chief Judge, are as follows:

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

All criminal, traffic and juvenile matters.	JUDGE J. MARC KELLY (Headquarters – Vandalia)
All civil matters; and Problem Solving Court.	JUDGE BRADLEY PAISLEY (Headquarters – Taylorville)

CLAY COUNTY

All matters (Monday, Wednesday & Friday).	JUDGE JOEL J.C. POWLESS (Headquarters – Louisville)
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CLINTON COUNTY

All matters; and Problem Solving Court.	JUDGE DOUGLAS GRUENKE (Headquarters – Carlyle)
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EFFINGHAM COUNTY

All criminal, traffic, and juvenile matters (Monday through Thursday).	JUDGE ALLAN LOLIE (Headquarters – Shelbyville)
All civil matters (Monday through Thursday).	JUDGE JEFFREY DELONG (Headquarters – Effingham)
All daily matters; and Problem Solving Court (Friday).	JUDGE ERICKA SANDERS (Headquarters – Salem)

FAYETTE COUNTY

All criminal and traffic matters (Monday through Wednesday); and juvenile delinquent Thursdays. <i>(See Section 9 below)</i>	JUDGE BRYAN KIBLER (Headquarters – Effingham)
All matters and Problem Solving Court (Friday).	JUDGE NATHAN FRISCH (Headquarters – Taylorville)
All civil matters (Monday through Wednesday).	JUDGE JOSHUA MORRISON (Headquarters – Vandalia)
All juvenile abuse & neglect matters (Thursday). <i>(See Section 9 below)</i>	JUDGE MARTIN SIEMER (Headquarters – Effingham)

JASPER COUNTY

All matters (Tuesday & Thursday).	JUDGE CHAD MILLER (Headquarters – Newton)
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MARION COUNTY

All criminal and traffic matters (Monday through Thursday).	JUDGE ERICKA SANDERS (Headquarters –Salem)
All civil and juvenile matters (Monday through Thursday). All matters; and Problem Solving Court (Friday).	JUDGE MARK STEDELIN (Headquarters – Salem)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

All criminal and traffic matters; and Problem Solving Court.	JUDGE CHRISTOPHER MATOUSH (Headquarters – Hillsboro)
All civil and juvenile matters.	JUDGE CHRISTOPHER HANTLA (Headquarters – Hillsboro)

SHELBY COUNTY

All matters (Monday through Thursday).	JUDGE NATHAN FRISCH (Headquarters – Taylorville)
All matters; and Problem Solving Court (Friday).	JUDGE ALLAN LOLIE (Headquarters – Shelbyville)

ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

1) **Circuit Judge Amanda Ade-Harlow, Circuit Judge Dennis Atteberry, Circuit Judge Stanley Brandmeyer, Circuit Judge Wesley Gozia, Circuit Judge Bryan Kibler (Thursday, Friday), Circuit Judge Chad Miller (Monday, Wednesday, Friday), Circuit Judge Joshua Morrison (Thursday, Friday), Circuit Judge Joel Powless (Tuesday, Thursday), Circuit Judge Martin Siemer (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday), and Associate Judge Jeffrey DeLong (Friday)** will be assigned by the Chief Judge’s Office. All other Circuit and Associate Judges will be subject to special assignment as ordered by the Chief Judge’s Office.

2) The Chief Judge’s Office will make a Judge available to cover any Judge’s assignment when that Judge is on vacation.

3) The Chief Judge’s Office will make a Judge available to cover daily calls when a Judge is conducting a jury trial, except for Christian County, which will be scheduled for one-daily judge settings during civil jury trial weeks (five per year); Fayette County, which will be scheduled for one-daily judge settings during all jury trial weeks; and Montgomery County, which will be scheduled for one-daily judge settings during civil jury trial weeks.

4) No Judge will be available to cover in the event a Judge goes to a seminar. In such instances, the Judge shall clear his or her calendar for that particular day or days. If a Judge takes any committee or teaching assignments or any other job related activity, they must first obtain approval for coverage from the Chief Judge's Office before accepting the position.

5) A Judge who has a conflict with a particular case assigned to him or her pursuant to this Administrative Order shall make arrangements with another Judge assigned to hear matters in the county in question to hear the conflict case. The Judge with the conflict shall hear the other Judge's cases while that Judge hears the conflict case. If there are no other Judges assigned to the county in question who can hear the conflict case, the Chief Judge's Office shall be contacted for the issuance of an Assignment Order assigning a Judge from outside the county in question to hear the conflict case.

6) If a Judge not regularly assigned in a particular county is specially assigned to hear a conflict case in that county, the Judge who had the initial conflict shall make himself or herself available for assignment by the Chief Judge's Office during the time the conflict case is being heard.


7) All Judges, and the reporters assigned to them, shall promptly notify the Chief Judge's Office of their availability for special assignment whenever their daily or trial matters are continued, settled or otherwise delayed.

8) The Judge hearing criminal jury trials in each county will be responsible for impaneling the Grand Jury and Grand Jury proceedings. The Judge hearing daily criminal matters is designated to hear all criminal expungement proceedings.

9) All juvenile delinquent cases in Fayette County shall be set on the following Thursdays: July 16, September 17, October 15 and December 10. All juvenile abuse & neglect cases shall be set on all other Thursdays not previously listed.

10) **No cases shall be set that will run past the hour of 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 10, 2026; and Friday, October 2, 2026,** so that all Judges may attend a regularly scheduled judges' meeting on those dates. **The Chief Judge may reschedule any settings that appear likely to violate this paragraph.**

DATED: May 1, 2026



Martin W. Siemer, Chief Judge