

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, LAW DIVISION**

IN RE: ALL ASBESTOS LITIGATION	)	Case No. 2009-L- 000000
	)	
	)	IN RE: ASBESTOS LITIGATION
	)	
	)	Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle
	)	
MASTER FILE	)	Calendar: "J1"
	)	

STANDING ORDER (effective July 1, 2026)

The purpose of this standing order is (1) to establish consistent procedures for (a) those matters assigned to the "J1" Asbestos Litigation Calendar, and (b) those matters assigned or transferred to the Honorable Maura Slattery Boyle; and (2) to provide some additional guidance regarding the standards for the Court's virtual proceedings.

**A. REQUIREMENTS FOR VIRTUAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH
THE COURT**

1. Email Address: asbestos@cookcountyil.gov

- i. Any correspondence to the Court concerning any case on the "J1" Asbestos Litigation Calendar shall be relayed to asbestos@cookcountyil.gov, the official email address for the Court's calendar.
- ii. Any email relayed to an email address previously utilized by the Court will neither be processed nor addressed.
- iii. Any documents, including proposed Orders, shall be submitted to the Court in **.pdf** format, unless otherwise directed by the Court.

2. Requirements for Any Emails Directed to the Court

- i. **Subject Line:** Any email relayed to the Court must contain the following information within the subject line of the email: (1) the type of motion or petition (*e.g.*, REGULAR MOTION, EMERGENCY MOTION, ROUTINE MOTION, etc.) or the type of request being made to the Court (*e.g.*, AGREED ORDER(S) TO PROCESS); and (2) the last name of the Plaintiff and/or Decedent and Circuit Court of Cook County assigned case number, unless the email concerns more than one case.

- ii. **Examples** of appropriate subject lines would **only** include the following items:

- 1. ROUTINE MOTION: Rodriguez, 2022L000123
- 2. AGREED ORDER TO PROCESS: Rodriguez, 2022L000123
- 3. AGREED ORDERS TO PROCESS

- iii. The case name and Circuit Court of Cook County-assigned case number must be included within the body of the email.

- iv. The email addresses of any relevant counsel of record must be copied (or “CC’d”) to any communication with the Court.
- 3. **Emails that DO NOT comply with the above requirements will be rejected.**

B. MOTIONS: The Asbestos Motion Call is conducted (virtually) every Tuesday at 1:30 PM CT, unless otherwise directed by the Court.

1. General Requirements

- i. All motions (e.g., motions slated for presentment or hearing during one of the Court’s Asbestos Motion Calls, emergency motions, routine motions) and corresponding notices of motion **must** be (1) electronically-filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, prior to their submission to the Court; and (2) served on all parties who have filed an appearance.
- ii. **Notice:** It is widely understood and agreed by members of the “J1” Asbestos Litigation bar that the preferred electronic service provider is File&ServeXpress. This platform allows the parties to exchange electronic notices in one central location. Any party that formally opts out of using this service provider (by means of all relevant parties) must be served with documents via the traditional means required by the applicable rules.

2. Asbestos Motion Call

- i. While the use of virtual or remote proceedings remains in effect, the Court’s Asbestos Motion Calls will be conducted online through the use of Zoom Video Communications, Inc. every **Tuesday, at 1:30 PM CT.**
- ii. Litigants may access the schedules for the Court’s Asbestos Motion Calls by visiting the following link: <http://bit.ly/asbestosmotioncalls>. (See **Exhibit A** for information regarding those steps that must be complied with in order to have a motion presented at one of the Court’s Asbestos Motion Calls). The responsibility for editing those schedules formulated online remains with the parties, **not** the Court. Therefore, once you have edited the appropriate schedule and selected a hearing date, the motion will be heard, unless as otherwise notified by the Court. If you should choose to withdraw a motion or cancel a scheduled hearing date, then you must update the schedule online accordingly.
- iii. Since courtesy copies will be uploaded pursuant to Exhibit A, there is no need to email courtesy copies to the Court. The Court receives neither notice nor a copy of those documents that have been electronically-filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County. **Furthermore, it is mandated that any relevant courtesy copies be uploaded to a schedule online at least three (3) business days before the hearing on any given matter.**
- iv. As noted within section (B)(1) of this Standing Order, all motions must be served on all parties who have filed an appearance.

3. Emergency Motions

- i. Notice for an emergency motion must comply with those provisions of Local Rule 2.2, and an electronically-filed copy of the emergency motion must be relayed to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov for the Court’s consideration, prior to being scheduled for a hearing.
- ii. True emergencies are generally rare and limited to those situations wherein irreparable damages or injury may occur if relief is not granted before the movant can be heard

during one of the Court's regularly-scheduled Asbestos Motion Calls. If the Court finds that the motion has failed to articulate a true emergency, then the motion will be stricken.

iii. Once an emergency motion has been scheduled for hearing, the movant must provide immediate notice to (1) all counsel of record, including counsel for those parties not yet held in default and self-represented litigants; and (2) all persons that may be affected by the type of relief requested (and have yet to appear in the case). See section (A)(2)(iv) of this Standing Order for additional information regarding the Court's requirements for any emails relayed to the Court.

4. Asbestos Dependency Hearings

i. While the use of virtual or remote proceedings remains in effect, dependency hearings will be conducted online through the use of Zoom Video Communications, Inc. on Tuesday, at 11:00 AM CT, and an electronically-filed copy of the petition, and any related documents, must be relayed to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov for the Court's consideration, prior to being scheduled for a hearing.

ii. Any requests to schedule a dependency hearing must be relayed to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov, and the movant must indicate whether all interested parties have agreed to a proposed allocation.

5. Routine Motions

i. Routine motions must be (1) electronically-filed; (2) scheduled for ruling no sooner than five (5) business days after notice has been served upon those parties entitled to notice; and (3) relayed to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov (with a copy of a proposed Order) for the Court's consideration at least three (3) business days beforehand.

ii. Routine motions are addressed "off-call" without the necessity of any appearances by counsel, and no party may appear at the time designated within the relevant notice.

iii. Objections: Any party intending on objecting to a routine motion must object to the motion before the scheduled hearing date. Objections shall be made in writing, via an email transmitted to the Court with a subject line akin to the following: "OBJECTION to ROUTINE MOTION: [Plaintiff and/or Decedent's Last Name], [Case Number]." An objection relayed to the Court need not state the basis for the objection. In the event the Court receives an objection to a routine motion, an Order will not be entered, and the movant will be asked to "re-notice" their routine motion for presentment during one of the Court's regularly-scheduled Asbestos Motion Calls.

iv. If a routine motion is properly relayed to the Court and no objection is made, then the movant's proposed Order will be processed. Effective August 1, 2023, copies of entered Orders will no longer be returned to the parties via email from a member of our staff. Rather, Illinois-licensed attorneys may retrieve copies of entered Orders from the CCC Portal maintained by the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, by visiting the following link: <https://bit.ly/cookcountyclerkofcourtportal>. Upon arriving at the CCC Portal webpage, Illinois-licensed attorneys must register for a CCC Portal account and, further, request access to those features accessible to attorneys by furnishing their (active) IARDC number. (See **Exhibit B** for additional information regarding the CCC Portal).

v. Examples of routine motions would include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Motions for a finding of good faith settlement;**
- 2. Motions to appoint a special process server;**
 - a. Note: The special process server's license number must be included within the motion.**
- 3. Motions to issue a summons or an alias summons;**
- 4. Motions to Set Cases for Trial and to Enter a Corresponding CMO.**
- 5. Motions for leave to file an appearance, answer, affirmative defense, counterclaim, or third-party complaint;**
- 6. Motions to vacate any and all technical defaults and to file an appearance, motion, or answer;**
- 7. Motions for leave to file an amended complaint, counterclaim, or third-party complaint;**
- 8. Motion to Amend the Complaint for any reason including: Additional Defendants, Motions to amend even after the Complaint has been amended once previously**
- 9. Motions for leave to appear as additional counsel or withdraw and substitute attorneys by agreement;**
 - a. Note: A motion to withdraw as counsel without a substitute attorney is not considered a routine motion. Any motions (and proposed Orders) to withdraw and substitute attorneys by agreement must include the Cook County firm identification numbers for each firm, and a motion must be electronically-filed within each matter involving a particular party.**
- 10. Motions for voluntary dismissal of certain parties, a complaint, a counterclaim, or a third-party complaint;**
 - a. Note: Stipulations to dismiss a case (in whole or in part) must be electronically-filed and accompanied by a corresponding Order.**
- 11. Motions for the issuance of a subpoena to be served outside Illinois.**
 - a. Note: Specific documentation must be included with the motion.**

C. DEPOSITIONS

A.

- 1. The noticing party must provide a single packet no later than 48 hours before a fact deposition which includes the following:**
 - a) Verified Answers to Master Consolidated Interrogatories in Plaintiff and Responses to Requests to Production of Documents to Plaintiff.**
 - b) Fact Witness List and/or Identity Confirmation.**
 - c) Any plaintiff affidavit**
 - d) Stipulation or product identification list**

If the packet is not timely submitted this will cause deposition delayed and materials stricken.

- 2. No plaintiff deposition may occur before defendants are served and the defendant's appearance time has run, unless the Court grants verified motion for expedited discovery upon good cause shown.**
- 3. If a defendant who has not been served and participates in any depositions the defendant does not waive any objections to service, defenses, or arguments as to objections or arguments as to Personal Jurisdiction.**
- 4. Depositions must be completed within 30 days from the day started absent motion and order of the Court.**

B. Deposition Format

- 1. Deposition notices must identify the platform to be used**
- 2. On the Record identification of all parties present on the record and in waiting rooms**
- 3. For remote depositions, no off-camera communications with witness as to the substance of testimony shall be allowed. Witness shall be alone in front of the camera with the exception that upon 48-hour notice to all parties, a non-product identification support person may be present. A witness shall cause the camera to scan the room prior to commencement of the deposition and upon the request of any party during the deposition.
The attorneys that are questioning and the witness ARE REQUIRED to have their cameras ON while questioning.**

D. TRIALS

1. Asbestos Trial Calls

- i. The Court's Asbestos Trial Calls will be conducted IN PERSON on both the first and second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM CT, in addition to any other trial settings that have been specially-set for any other day of the month.**
- ii. Plaintiffs' counsel is hereby required to provide the Court with a complete list of those cases pending on any given Asbestos Trial Call at least one day before trial (at a minimum), which shall include the names of any remaining defendants on each case and, further, be updated from time-to-time over the course of any status hearings, as required by the Court. Accordingly, Plaintiffs' counsel should be prepared to share their list via the "share my screen" feature on Zoom.**

iii. Courtesy copies pertaining to any motions slated to be addressed over the course of an Asbestos Trial Call must be relayed to the following email address: asbestos@cookcountyil.gov. Examples of relevant motions would include the following: (1) (pending) dispositive motions; (2) motions *in limine*; (3) motions raised over the course of trial, etc.

2. Plaintiffs shall tender a demand to each Defendant 60 days before trial. In the event there is not timely demand made, the case may be subject to continuance on motion of a defendant.

3. Defendants shall respond no later than 30 days before trial to plaintiff's demand. If a demand is made in the case, and a defendant has not responded the case will continue to trial.

4. The Presiding Judge of the Asbestos Call will conduct a pretrial conference the week before the scheduled trial if the parties have not settled by such time.

5. Plaintiff's shall respond to pending jurisdiction, forum, choice of law, and summary judgement motions by the pretrial conference date.

E. PRE-TRIAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES

1. Cases Assigned to the "J1" Asbestos Litigation Calendar

i. Any requests for a pre-trial settlement conference must be directed to asbestos@cookcountyil.gov – at which point in time, the conference will be scheduled, contingent on the Court's availability. Once a date has been finalized for a pre-trial settlement conference, the parties must provide the Court with an Agreed Order (1) memorializing the date and time of the pre-trial settlement conference; and (2) noting that any memoranda (confidential or otherwise) must be transmitted to the following email address at least three (3) business days beforehand: asbestos@cookcountyil.gov.

F. SETTLEMENT ENFORCEMENT (735 ILCS 5/2-2301 and 735 5/2-1301)

1. (d) A settling defendant shall pay all sums due to the plaintiff within **30 days** of the tender by the plaintiff of the executed release and all applicable documents in compliance with subsections (a), (b), and (c) of 735 ILCS 5/2-2301.
2. (e) If, after a hearing, the court having jurisdiction over the parties finds that timely payment has not been made by a defendant pursuant to subsection (d) of 735 ILCS 5/2-2301, judgement shall be entered against the defendant for the amount set forth in the executed release, plus costs incurred in obtaining the judgement and interest at the rate specified under 2-1303 of this Code, calculated from the date of the tender by the plaintiff under subsection (d) of 735 ILCS 5/2-2301.
3. 735 5/2-1303 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of 735 5/2-1303, judgements recovered in any court shall draw interest at the rate of **9%** per annum from the date of the judgement until satisfied or **6%** per annum when the judgement debtor is a unit of local government, as defined in Section 1 of Article VII of the Constitution, a school district, a community college district, or any other governmental entity. When judgement is entered upon any award, report or verdict, interest shall be computed at the above rate, from the time when made or rendered to the time of entering judgement upon the same, and included in the judgement. Interest shall be computed and charged only on the

unsatisfied portion of the judgement as it exists from time to time. The judgement debtor may be tender, stop the further accrual of interest on such judgment notwithstanding the prosecution of an appeal, or other steps to reverse, vacate or modify the judgement.

G. COURTESY COPIES

1. Asbestos Motion Call Courtesy Copies shall be submitted via the Dropbox link *no later than 2:00pm the preceding Thursday before the Tuesday call*. A failure to abide by this requirement may result in the motion being continued to a later date. (See **Exhibit A** for more information regarding Asbestos Motion Calls).

2. Trial Call Motions shall be emailed to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov in .pdf format.

3. Briefs and Citations: No brief shall exceed fifteen (15) pages in length, doubled-spaced and exclusive of any corresponding exhibits. Additionally, briefs must utilize a customary twelve-point (12) font and one (1) inch margins, and any citations must be made to official reporters. Briefs filed in violation of these requirements will neither be accepted nor considered without leave of Court.

H. ENTRY OF PROPOSED ORDERS

1. Any (proposed) Orders must be transmitted to asbestos@cookcountyl.gov in .pdf format for the Court's review and entry, unless otherwise directed by the Court. Proof of electronic-filing must accompany those (proposed) Orders that correspond to either routine motions or stipulations to dismiss.

2. After hearings, the parties are required to deliver to the Court an Order in .pdf format memorializing the Court's ruling no later than 5:00 PM CT on the day of your hearing, unless otherwise directed by the Court.

3. Agreed Orders: Agreed Orders (1) shall be marked "agreed" within the title of the Order, unless an agreement between the parties is referenced within the email containing the proposed Order; and (2) must strike any future hearing dates, if applicable.

4. Receipt of Entered Orders: Illinois-licensed attorneys may retrieve copies of entered Orders from the CCC Portal maintained by the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, by visiting the following link: <https://bit.ly/cookcountyclerkofcourtportal>. Upon arriving at the CCC Portal webpage, Illinois-licensed attorneys must register for a CCC Portal account and, further, request access to those features accessible to attorneys by furnishing their (active) IARDC number. (See **Exhibit B** for additional information regarding the CCC Portal).

5. Notice: Once a party responsible for drafting and submitting an Order has retrieved said Order from the CCC Portal, it is incumbent upon that party to disseminate the Order to all counsel of record in the case.

I. COURT REPORTERS

1. The Circuit Court of Cook County does not provide an official court reporter for those proceedings on the "J1" Asbestos Litigation Calendar. Accordingly, it is incumbent upon the parties to formally retain the services of a court reporter, should one be deemed necessary.

J. CIVILITY AND ATTORNEY CONDUCT

1. As officers of the Court, attorneys have an obligation to conduct themselves in a professional manner when interacting with their clients, opposing parties and their counsel, the Court, and the general public. As such, attorneys on the “J1” Asbestos Litigation Calendar must uphold a sense of civility, professional integrity, personal dignity, candor, diligence, respect, courtesy, and cooperation, when practicing before this Court.

K. VIRTUAL PROCEEDINGS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Zoom Video Communications, Inc.

i. **Video Attendance:** In order to attend all proceedings occurring on the “J1” Asbestos Litigation Calendar, and all other court business as designated, please refer to the following information:

1. **Meeting ID: 813 5904 4536**

2. **Passcode: 770586**

ii. **Audio Attendance:** In order to attend all proceedings occurring on the “J1” Asbestos Litigation Calendar (by phone), and all other court business as designated, please refer to the following information:

1. Please dial-in to the following number: +1 (312) 626-6799

2. Meeting ID: 813 5904 4536

3. Passcode: 770586

iii. Standards for Virtual Appearances:

1. Individuals attending our proceedings should test their technology prior to appearing on Zoom and must have their full name listed on their screen.

2. Appearing for a virtual hearing carries the same weight as if appearing for a hearing in-person. Accordingly, your dress and background (virtual or otherwise) should be professional. You should eliminate any background noise, mute your microphone when you are not speaking, and remain stationary over the course of your appearance (*i.e.*, you should not be driving your car, riding on a train, or walking). Additionally, you must activate your camera when attending a virtual hearing.

3. You are expected to be acquainted with various features on the Zoom platform, including the “share my screen” feature.

4. See section (F)(2) of this Standing Order for the Court’s deadline for those Orders memorializing the Court’s rulings.

2. Cook County Court Webpage

i. For all the latest information regarding the Court’s protocols and procedures, please visit the following link:

<https://www.cookcountycourt.org/about/circuit-court-rules>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE ENTERED: July 1, 2026

Judge Maura Slattery Boyle

EXHIBIT A

Scheduling Motions on the Court's Asbestos Motion Calls (conducted Tuesdays at 1:30 PM CT)

1. Visit the following link (<http://bit.ly/asbestosmotioncalls>) and select your desired schedule.
2. Enter the requested information within the list of available items (*i.e.*, items one through forty): "[Name of Attorney] [Firm of Office] [Case Name] [Case Number] [Motion]."
3. Click on the hyperlink associated with the following text located at the top of your desired schedule: "Courtesy copies (in the form of .pdf documents) must be deposited at the hyperlink associated with this text, at least three (3) business days beforehand."
4. Once the hyperlink loads, right-click on a space within the folder, which will contain a name akin to "2026-1-05 Asbestos Motion Call," and upload your courtesy copies (in the form of .pdf documents) utilizing the "File upload" feature.
5. All courtesy copies deposited with the Court in this manner must be electronically-filed (*i.e.*, bear the file-stamp of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County), and, if applicable, contain the following: (1) the Notice of Motion; (2) Motion itself; and (3) a proposed Order.

EXHIBIT B

**Information Regarding the CCC Portal Maintained by
the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County**

1. **Case Records:** Illinois-licensed attorneys may obtain copies of case documents at no charge at CCC Portal (<https://bit.ly/cookcountyclerkofcourtportal>). Also, in the near future, the Clerk's Office will join re:SearchIL, the PACER-type system selected by the Illinois Supreme Court for all Illinois Circuit Court Clerk records throughout the State. You may read more about re:SearchIL at the following link: <http://research.illinoiscourts.gov/>.

2. **Court Forms:** Effective September 1, 2021, Illinois Circuit Court Clerks are directed to distribute only the approved standardized statewide court forms in the following categories: Answer, Appearance, Summons, Citation to Discover Assets to Debtor, Citation to Discover Assets to Debtor's Bank, Citation to Discover Assets to Debtor's Employer, Fee Waiver for Civil Cases, Interpreter Request, Limited Scope Appearance, Motion, Motion to Appoint Special Process Server, Proof of Delivery, and others. These statewide forms may be found on the Clerk's Office website or at the following link: <https://www.illinoiscourts.gov/documents-and-forms/approved-forms/>.