



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

January 11, 2005 Contact: Bryant Payne (312) 603-5690; bdpayne@cookcountycourt.com

**Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County Successfully
Rolls Out First Phase of Integrated Cashiering System**

On Monday Dec.13, the Office of Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, successfully rolled out the first phase of a new Integrated Cashiering & Security System (ICSS). Called ICSS-Release 0, the first phase of the system was implemented in the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Divisions of the Clerk's Office.

The result of an unprecedented \$5 million technological project that was initiated by Clerk Brown and approved by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, the ICSS represents a major milestone in improving the cashiering environment within the Clerk's Office. The Certified Public Accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche, using the cashiering software Revenue Collector, is implementing the system.

"With the large volume of fees and fines for which we are responsible, the need for an improved cashiering and security system in the Clerk's Office has been acute for some time," said Clerk Brown. "This is true reform and brings our cashiering system into the 21st Century."

Chief Financial Officer John Morales said, "The launching of the ICSS is another step toward the strategic vision for a 21st Century Clerk's Office initiated by Clerk Brown in Dec. 2000. We look forward to realizing significant increases in efficiency and productivity."

With the new system in place, the general public will benefit from expedited service at the Clerk's Office cash registers, as transactions will be made easier and lines will move more quickly. Timely accounting and updating of court records, improved reconciliation procedures and better security will also be benefits of the new system. The entire office is scheduled to be completed by May of 2005.

When Clerk Brown first took office in 2000, she launched an initiative to identify a solution to the cashiering problem as well as improve site security and financial controls in the Clerk of the Circuit Court's Office. She pulled together a project core team that consisted of her Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer, a business analyst for cashiering, a business analyst for security and a project manager. The team also included in the process, input from the Office of the Chief Judge, the County Bureau of Automation and Technology and other integral agencies.

Following the implementation of the first phase of the ICSS, Chief Information Officer Craig Wimberly said, “Although we have just begun a rollout that will impact all operational divisions and districts within the Clerk’s Office, this early success is due to a few critical factors: we established a governance model that addresses issues expeditiously, we’ve built and maintained a collaborative partnership between consultants and all areas of the Clerk’s Office, involved subject matter experts at all decision points, monitored and controlled the project at a detailed level, communicated consistently at all levels and focused on training and managing change. In short, we’re managing this very large and complex effort with discipline and rigor.”

###



Photo caption:

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, (seated right) observes the final testing prior to authorizing the roll out of the first phase of the Integrated Cashiering and Security System in the Clerk’s Office. Bill Briggs (standing, foreground) of Deloitte & Touche, James L. Pandolfi (standing right) of Crowe, Chizek and Company, LLC, a project management firm, and members of Clerk Brown’s MIS (Management Information Systems) staff also observe the process.