



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

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Clerk Dorothy Brown Excited about the Illinois Supreme Court Approval of E-Filing Standards for Circuit Courts and is Prepared to Apply for Approval for Expansion of Cook County's E-Filing System

Illinois Supreme Court gives e-filing expansion in state's circuit courts the Green light

October 25, 2012 (Chicago) The Illinois Supreme Court announced on October 24, 2012, that all of the state's circuit courts may now use electronic filing upon the adherence to certain standards and guidelines. The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court Cook County, is ready to make sure that the Cook County e-filing system is in compliance with the standards so that the Clerk's Office can move forward with electronic filing for all civil case types approved by the Supreme Court, which would make Cook County the largest court system in the world to initiate this "Green Court" technology.

Three years ago, Clerk Brown successfully launched an e-filing pilot project in the Individual Commercial Calendar Section of the Law Division. Ready and eager to expand the technology throughout the Cook County Court Clerk's Office, Clerk Brown awaited final approval from the Supreme Court, while it considered how to establish a statewide e-filing policy.

"I am elated that Chief Justice Thomas Kilbride has opened the door to all courts in Illinois to use e-filing," said Clerk Brown. "I thank Justice Kilbride and Director Michael Tardy of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) for their decision to allow courts to fully implement this important technology."

"E-Filing is a very efficient and cost-effective program," Clerk Brown pointed out. "With courts facing budget cuts and cost-saving challenges, e-filing is the right option and its time has come for Illinois. I am very excited about how this option will streamline processes and modernize operations in the Clerk's Office."

Clerk Brown served on the Supreme Court Special E-Access committee, established by Kilbride, and was involved in helping to develop an e-access policy which deals with providing the public with the ability to view electronic images on the Internet. Upon approving the use of e-filing throughout the state, the Supreme Court established mandatory e-filing standards for courts that will take effect Jan. 1, 2013.

“The complete implementation of e-filing in the Circuit Court of Cook County will bring us another step closer to my vision of a fully integrated, electronic court system and 21st Century court rooms,” said Clerk Brown.

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