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**With E-Warrants, Clerk Dorothy Brown Frees Up Time
for Law Enforcement to Fight Crime**

The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, has announced that electronic warrants processing has been implemented in the 1st Municipal District Branch Courts, Central Bond Court, Domestic Violence Court and District 5 - Bridgeview, and will be installed in District 6 - Markham on Dec. 15, 2008.

Called E-Warrants, the new program automates the preparation of warrants, allowing the complete, accurate, timely, and secure transfer of information, as well as the ability to exchange documents between agencies, the security of digital signatures on all documents, an electronic audit log to track changes in the status of information, and the ability for authorized users in every agency to access current information about each case.

“This automation allows our office to further streamline processes, decrease labor intensity, reduce errors, and greatly lower costs,” said Clerk Brown. “Due to its built-in features, E-Warrants tremendously benefits the Clerk’s Office, our affiliate law enforcement and justice agencies as well as the citizens of Cook County.”

The E-Warrants program captures the digital signature of the judge and allows for electronic transmission of the warrant to the arresting agency, thereby eliminating the need for warrants to be printed out and faxed to arresting agencies. As the rapid exchange of necessary warrant information is transmitted electronically, law enforcement officers will be better equipped and have more time to actively protect citizens and save lives.

The E-Warrants program was funded through a grant from the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP). The funding has allowed the Clerk of the Court’s office to create a Web-based system between its criminal case management system (KRIM) and the information systems of the Chicago Police Department, the Offices of the Cook County State’s Attorney, Public Defender, Chief Judge, Sheriff, and Illinois State Police.

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