



**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Press Contact:

Jalyne R. Strong

(312) 603-5690

[jrstrong@cookcountycourt.com](mailto:jrstrong@cookcountycourt.com)



**Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, explains the many planned uses for the new Records Storage and Digital Imaging Center, at the official opening and ribbon-cutting event. She is joined by Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle (third from left) and (left to right) Cook County Commissioners Jesus Garcia, Jeff Tobolski and Robert Steele; Mr. Herman Brewer, Bureau Chief, Cook County Bureau of Economic Development, and Cook County Commissioner John Daley.**

**CLERK DOROTHY BROWN, PRESIDENT PRECKWINKLE OFFICIALLY OPEN  
NEW RECORDS STORAGE AND DIGITAL IMAGING CENTER**

**(CHICAGO, April 22, 2014)** This morning, Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, thanked Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and the Office of Capital Planning and Management for fulfilling the Clerk’s Office’s “dream of a state-of-the-art records storage facility that helps provide the citizens of Cook County with the high quality records storage and retrieval service they deserve.”

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony commemorating the opening of the new Records Storage and Digital Imaging Center, located at 1330 S. 54<sup>th</sup> Ave., Cicero, IL, , Clerk Brown said, “I am elated to be here this morning with President Preckwinkle for the official opening of the new **Records Storage and Digital Imaging Center**. This is certainly a momentous occasion for the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, since having a modernly equipped and spacious facility to house and manage over one million

boxes of Cook County circuit court files, and related documents and archival items, has been a major objective of mine since as early as 2002.”

“The vastness and strategic design of this facility allows for the well-organized storage and rapid retrieval of the records currently contained in the 1.1 million boxes of court documents. The size of this building also allows for future storage concerns of housing the estimated 43,000 boxes of new court files the Clerk’s Office receives each year,” Clerk Brown added.

“Using available hi-speed scanners, employees here will be able to digitize court files that are requested from the Records Storage Center, and then those files will be available for viewing from our electronic docket on our public access terminals, by our employees, and from the judges’ benches in all court houses. The Clerk’s Office has already digitized 100 million court documents, starting with 5 million County Division documents digitized in 2006, and continuing, to date, with the Imaging and Document Management System (IDMS) implemented in 2009,” Clerk Brown said. “With IDMS and eFiling, the Clerk’s Office is well on its way towards making the electronic record the official court record.”

President Preckwinkle stated, “This Records Storage and Digital Imaging Center for the Cook County Court System highlights two of my most important goals: proactively using technology to modernize our operations, and improving efficiency in the use of County-leased and owned properties, which includes rethinking our storage space.”

Clerk Brown concluded her remarks by stating, “We are excitedly looking forward to being fully moved in and operational by early 2015.”