

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
FIRST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**Re: ERP and Non-Jury Evictions Changes to Cases That are Placed on ERP and  
Adjustment of Caps**

**AMENDED GENERAL ORDER 2021-05**

**SUMMARY:** The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and ending of the statewide stay on evictions has created a situation in Cook County where a high volume of eviction proceedings have been filed in the First Municipal District. This order is designed to realistically manage resources in Courtroom 1302 and the First Municipal District's ERP.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that all new commercial and non-ERP cases shall be removed from the ERP call (Courtroom 1302), and randomized to Courtrooms 1402, 1404, 1406, and 1408.

Cases filed as emergency evictions also should be removed from the ERP call and randomized to Courtrooms 1402, 1404, 1406, and 1408. However, if those Courts find a lack of validity in the emergency filing, the case should be transferred back to the ERP call before moving forward if the tenant is unrepresented.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the ERP case call shall be increased from sixteen (16) cases per hour to twenty-five (25) per hour, or seventy-five (75) per day for a more realistic management of ERP resources.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that all signed and agreed orders where both parties are represented by counsel will be automatically entered and the parties will not be required to appear.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that cases assigned to Courtrooms 1402, 1404, 1406, and 1408 for status/prove up hearings, where service has been obtained, and no litigant appears, the Court may strike the case from the call or dismiss the case.

If the tenant appears and no landlord appears the Court may dismiss the case with notice to the landlord. If the tenant or its representative fails to appear, the landlord may ask for a default and a prove up hearing.

For cases that are up for status on the ERP call:

- a. Cases where both parties are requesting a continuance in the ERP program shall be given a continuance;
- b. Cases where the parties have resolved the case, the Court shall enter the agreed order reflecting the agreed resolution;
- c. Cases where the parties have not resolved the case, the case will be transferred to Courtroom 1301 for re-assignment;
- d. If the defendant has filed a jury demand before the continued ERP date, the jury transfer shall be entered by the clerk and the parties do not need to appear. Jury demands not filed before the continued ERP date will be disallowed.

Dated at Chicago, Illinois effective immediately.

ENTERED:

*Presiding Judge E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.*

**MAR 22 2022**

**Circuit Court - 1624**

  
E. KENNETH WRIGHT, JR.  
PRESIDING JUDGE  
FIRST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT