

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, COUNTY DIVISION**

IN RE:)
)
PETITION OF THE COOK COUNTY)
CLERK FOR AN ORDER OF COURT) Case No. 2020 COEL 11
ALLOWING FOR RELOCATION OF)
PRECINCT POLLING PLACES WITH)
ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF NOTICE)
OF CHANGE)

TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

This case coming to be heard on Cook County Clerk Karen Yarbrough's Emergency Notice of presentment of her Verified Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief and Temporary Restraining Order ("Verified Complaint"). The Court being fully advised in the premises, *finds as follows*:

1. The organizations, entities and individuals identified in the Verified Complaint's Service List have all received notice of the hearing regarding the above-captioned matter via email.
2. In recognition of the fact that the right to vote is a fundamental right and in keeping with protecting that fundamental right, this Court finds that action must be taken in order to protect that right.
3. There is a "public health emergency under Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act" as proclaimed by the Governor of the State of Illinois as set forth in Exhibit A to the Verified Complaint. Exhibit A of the Verified Complaint proclaims that the virus presents "known health risks for older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions."

4. As of March 12, 2020, the Cook County Clerk has been required to relocate at least 43 polling places as a result of the Public Health Emergency related to the ongoing COVID-19 virus.
5. The Governor's Office further advised that conducting voting and allowing polling nursing homes or senior care facilities should be discouraged because of the known escalated health risks to the populations residing in such facilities. Several Election Day polling places are located in nursing and senior care facilities, as well as other private property where the property owner has notified the Clerk that they will not allow use of their premises as a polling place because of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
6. At the present time, nine precinct polling locations have notified the Cook County Clerk that they will not be able to serve as polling places on March 17, 2020. These polling places have been relocated as set forth on the attached list, but there is insufficient time to comply with the statutory mail notice to the voters in these precincts of the change of polling places. (*See Exhibit A*).
7. The Cook County Clerk anticipates that several additional polling places will notify the Clerk that they will not be able to serve as precinct polling places on March 17, 2020. At this point in time, if a precinct polling place must be relocated, the Cook County Clerk will not have sufficient time to notify all the registered voters in the precinct of the change in location by first-class mail prior to the day before the March 17, 2020 Election.
8. The Clerk believes that relocation of precinct polling places will be necessary up to and including March 17, 2020, with the total number of precincts needing to be relocated unknown. The Cook County Clerk will endeavor to use the closest practicable site to the original polling place locations, and has identified sites including, but not limited to,

Cook County Courthouse buildings, as possible alternatives, but will not be able to notify voters in affected precincts by first-class mail in sufficient time as required by the statute.

9. The Clerk and the affected voters have clearly ascertainable rights and duties to participate in the electoral process, to preserve the fundamental right to vote, and to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process. Plaintiff/Petitioner has demonstrated a likelihood of success on the merits of the claim.
10. The Plaintiff/Petitioner herein, and the voters of the affected precincts, will have no adequate remedy at law to preserve their fundamental right to vote, and the integrity of the election process, and there is no legal remedy which will adequately provide voters their right to cast their ballot.

Based upon the foregoing findings, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Due to the public health emergency and last-minute and ongoing withdrawal of on-site polling place locations, and in order to protect the fundamental right to vote, the Clerk shall relocate precinct polling places that have indicated an unwillingness or inability to continue to serve as such. The relocation shall be to the closest practicable location to the original polling site. The Clerk shall provide notice of these relocations on the Cook County Clerk Website, by posting notices at the location of the original polling place directing voters to the alternative relocated polling place, and through contacting local press, community groups and other forms of media, to inform voters of the new location of their polling places for the March 17, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.
2. The Cook County Clerk may use alternative methods of providing public notice of the relocation of precinct polling places, including posting of this information on the Cook

County Clerk Website, posting notices at the location of the original polling places directing voters to the alternative relocated polling places, and through contacting local press, community groups and other forms of media, to inform voters of the new location of their polling places for the March 17, 2020 Presidential Primary Election, and such other relief as this Court deems appropriate for the March, 17, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

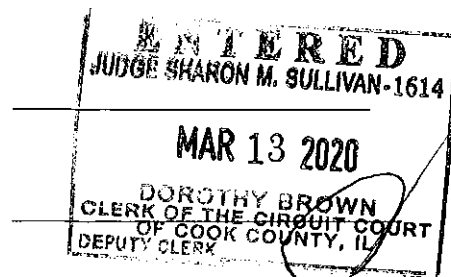
3. A copy of the Verified Complaint and this Temporary Restraining Order will be posted on the Cook County Clerk's website through March 20, 2020.

4. The Court reserves ruling on any other requests for relief necessary to afford effective relief in this matter.

5. This matter is continued for status on the Clerk's relocation of precinct polling places to the closest practicable location to the original polling site and further compliance with this order to **March 16, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 1703** of the Daley Center. At that time, the County Clerk shall provide a list of all polling places that have been moved pursuant to the authority granted in this Order as well as a list of the locations to where these polling places were moved.

6. Good cause exists to waive the posting of any bond, therefore the requirement of posting a bond is hereby waived.

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Township/Precinct

Bloom 46
Bremem 45
Leyden 2
Lyons 71
Thorton 110
Wheeling 23
Wheeling 24
Wheeling 82
Worth 91

New Location

Markham Courthouse, 16501 S. Kedzie Avenue, Markham
Markham Courthouse, 16501 S. Kedzie Avenue, Markham
Village of Schiller Park, 9526 Irving Park Rd, Schiller Park
Bridgeview Courthouse, 10220 S. 76th Ave, Bridgeview
Markham Courthouse, 16501 S. Kedzie Avenue, Markham
Rolling Meadows Courthouse, 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rolling Meadows
Rolling Meadows Courthouse, 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rolling Meadows
Rolling Meadows Courthouse, 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rolling Meadows
Bridgeview Courthouse, 10220 S. 76th Ave, Bridgeview

Old Location

Golden Towers
Turlington West Apartments
Grace Park
Sterling Estates
Turlington West Apartments
Southminster Church
Luther Village
Southminster Church
Park Lawn

Registered Voters

1051
671
650
666
672
847
770
1269
524