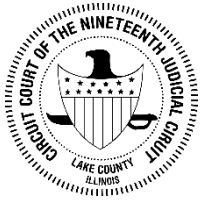


OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK  
Lake County, Illinois



Erin  
**Cartwright  
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Coming January 2022: The Supreme Court has done it again!

I am sure that you have heard—the Supreme Court of Illinois has brought us MORE changes!! Every time we think we will get a break they give us something new. Our Illinois Access to Justice Team (which includes our own Judge Ortiz) has worked hard to create a more uniform court system throughout the state. Although this helps us get closer to a homogeneous judicial district and circuit clerk processes, it is clear from discussions with the circuit clerks throughout the state that there will still be some inconsistencies between the counties. No matter what, we will be here to provide all of you with the assistance you need to navigate through the changes.

On January 1, 2022\*, the case types go through a revamp; some modified, some eliminated, some divided into separate categories, and some new! It is important when completing your first filing in 2022 that you are aware of how it will look after it is entered into our system. This article provides an overview of the changes that will affect you.

The Circuit Clerks' Offices throughout the State of Illinois follow guidelines as set forth by the Supreme Court in the Manual on Recordkeeping. It was created and is frequently modified by the Illinois Supreme Court. Below are a series of tables that show what case types are new, remain the same, are divided up, or disappear.

The list of the retired case types and the new case types that will be in its place are as follows:

New Case Type to be Implemented	Current Case Type to be Retired	Additional Information
DN (Dissolution No Minor Children)	D (Dissolution)	

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DC (Dissolution with Minor Children)		
FA (Family)	F (Family)	
JV (Juvenile)	J (Juvenile)	Includes Emancipation
LA (LAW)	L (Law)	New filing will include municipal corporations as parties to a lawsuit as appropriate
PR (Probate)	P (Probate)	
GC (Government Corporation)	MC (Municipal Corporation)	Every governmental corporation shall have one permanent case number which will include 1) organizations, 2) appointment of officers, 3) approval of bonds, & 4) routine orders confirming annexation. A new GC case number shall be assigned for new petitions that are filed.
TX (Tax)	TD (Tax Deed)	
Operating Under the Influence (OUI)	DUI	

New Case Types were established to distinguish certain allegations. The new case types are as follows:

New Case Type	Former Case Type	Additional Information
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DV (Domestic Violence)	CF (Felony) CM (Misdemeanor)	
EV (Eviction)	L (Law) LM (Law Magistrate)	Residential and Commercial Evictions
FC (Foreclosure)	CH (Chancery)	Residential and Commercial Foreclosure
GR (Guardianship)	PR (Probate)	
MT (Major Traffic)	TR (Traffic)	Established pursuant to SCR 501(f)(1)(i)
QC (Quasi-Criminal)	CM (Misdemeanor)	Includes Petty or Business offenses defined by 730 ILCS 5/5-1, and is not defined under DT, MT, TR or CV.
MX (Miscellaneous Criminal)	MR (Miscellaneous Remedy)	Assigned to civil processes for criminal proceedings. Asset forfeitures, Sealing and Expungement Petitions, Habeas Corpus, Search Warrants and Eaves Dropping

Case Types not being changed:

Case Type	Additional Information
AD (Adoption)	

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AR (Arbitration)	Will include municipalities that are parties to a lawsuit as appropriate
CM (Misdemeanor)	
CF (Felony)	
CH (Chancery)	
DT (Driving Under the Influence)	Will include OUI (boating DUI), and OUI will be retired.
LM (Law Magistrate)	
TR (Traffic)	Minor Traffics only
SC (Small Claims)	
ED (Eminent Domain)	
CL (Civil Law Violations)	
OV (Ordinance Violations)	
OP (Order of Protection)	
CV (Conservation Offenses)	
CC (Contempt of Court)	Included Jury Duty No Shows
MH (Mental Health)	
MR (Miscellaneous Remedy)	
JA (Juvenile Abuse and Neglect)	
JD (Juvenile Delinquent)	

The second change: there will be one case number per filing/event, and each case number will have multiple counts for each allegation. The most significant allegation will establish the case number, and counts will be included on the remaining allegations. The hierarchy will be as follows:

1. Civil
  - a. Chancery
  - b. Miscellaneous Remedy
  - c. Foreclosure
  - d. Eviction
  - e. Law
  - f. Law Magistrate/ Arbitration
  - g. Small Claims

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- h. Eminent Domain
  - i. Mental Health
  - j. Probate
  - k. Tax
  - l. Guardianship
  - m. Civil Law
2. Criminal and Traffic
- a. Criminal Felony
  - b. Domestic Violence
  - c. Driving Under the Influence
  - d. Criminal Misdemeanor
  - e. Major Traffic
  - f. Traffic
  - g. Conservation Violations
  - h. Quasi Criminal
  - i. Ordinance Violation
3. These files are not included in a hierarchy:
- a. Orders of Protection
  - b. Contempt of Court
  - c. Civil Law Violation
  - d. Miscellaneous Criminal

The third change, which will come with the new case management system in Lake County, is the inclusion of the full four-digit year at the beginning of the case number.

After I wrote this article, I became aware that Tyler Technologies, the company supporting the E-Filing system, cannot complete the changes for the “civil” filings (only in Lake County) until February 1, 2022. The other counties should be up to date on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The civil case types will start out as you are accustomed; however, on February 1<sup>st</sup>, any new case filings filed into a new case category, the numbering will start over, for example, 22DC0001 et al. Criminal, juvenile, and traffic case types will begin with the new case categories as planned on January 1, 2022.

We welcome these changes, as we welcome *all* of our legislative and Supreme Court rule amendments. We are here if you have questions...we will be right there with you!!! Happy Holidays....from our Illinois Supreme Court and me!

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