



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

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CLERK BROWN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTS E-FILING IN FIVE DIVISIONS AND COMMENCES A SERIES OF E-FILING TRAINING CLASSES, AUGUST 14



Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, leads an E-Filing training class. The Court Clerk's Office is offering a series of E-Filing training classes, once a week through September 25, 2013.

(CHICAGO, August 14, 2013) Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, has successfully implemented Electronic Filing (E-Filing) in five divisions of the Clerk's Office: Law (except condemnation cases), Chancery, Civil, Domestic Relations and Child Support Divisions, including the suburban districts.

"Each month, more and more Cook County court users are able to go online, instead of waiting in line to file court documents," Clerk Brown said. "In addition, E-Filing is environmentally friendly and is one of the Clerk's Office's 'Go Green!' technology initiatives."

E-Filing is the automated online process where court users can create and submit a court filing, pay the associated filing fees, and then receive the file stamped document electronically. Court filings can also be served electronically by the E-Filing system.

E-Filing increases efficiency for attorneys, and self-represented litigants. E-Filing also streamlines the Clerk's Office's processes of accepting, data entering and storing court documents, resulting in cost savings to taxpayers. Once accepted, e-filed documents are posted directly to the electronic docket, and the images can be retrieved and viewed on the public access terminals of the Clerk's Office.

“As each court division incorporates E-Filing capability, we advance toward a more technologically efficient and cost effective work environment,” said Clerk Brown. The Cook County Court Clerk's Office has more than 13,500 registered customers utilizing E-Filing, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. According to Clerk Brown, close to 9,000 E-Filing transactions have been completed as of the end of July 2013.

The full implementation of E-Filing in the Clerk's Office will greatly expedite the process of filing the typically large volume of civil case type documents processed in the Cook County court system.

Statistics show that in 2012 a total of **327,732** civil case types were filed in the Clerk's Office. The breakdown is: 170,908 cases filed in the Civil Division (District 1, Daley Center); 46,178 cases filed in the Chancery Division; 25,333 cases filed in the County Division; 19,846 cases filed in the Law Division; 7,701 cases filed in the Probate Division; 22,086 cases filed in Domestic Relations; 7,897 cases filed in Child Support (District 1); 3,853 cases filed in District 2 (Skokie); 6,643 in District 3 (Rolling Meadows); 3,903 in District 4 (Maywood); 3,844 in District 5 (Bridgeview) and 9,540 in District 6 (Markham).

The process of accepting of E-Filed documents in the Clerk's Office takes on average of less than three minutes per document. It only costs \$2.95 to E-File, which is a significant cost-savings compared to the expense of travel, parking, and time required to file in court in person.

In addition, from August 14, 2013 – September 25, 2013, E-Filing training classes will be held at 69 W. Washington, Pedway Room, on every Wednesday with two sessions: 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. E-filing training is also available through an online webinar on the Clerk's Office's web site. Visit the Clerk's Office's web site (www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org) for more information on registering for E-Filing training.

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