

**THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

PUBLIC NOTICE: COURTHOUSES CLOSED THROUGH May 31, 2020

In response to public health concerns associated with the COVID-19 outbreak, and pursuant to Administrative Order No. 266, **effective immediately and through May 31, 2020:**

- The federal courthouses in East St. Louis and Benton will be **CLOSED** to the public, subject to exceptions allowing the Court to meet its constitutional duties and handle emergencies related to public safety, public health and welfare, and individual liberty. No members of the public, other than litigants with a scheduled proceeding, counsel of record in that matter, law enforcement having official duties connected with a court proceeding, investigators or employees of counsel, court interpreters and contract court reporters, credentialed press, and those otherwise authorized to enter on official business, may enter the U.S. District Courthouses in East St. Louis and Benton without prior permission from a judge of this district, the Clerk of Court, the Probation and Pretrial Services Office, or other agency housed in the courthouse(s).
 - **Any person falling into one of the following categories SHALL NOT ENTER this courthouse:**
 - People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms within the last 14 days:
 - Cough **or** • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Or at least two of these symptoms:*
 - Fever • Chills • Muscle pain • Headache
 - Sore throat • New loss of taste or smell
 - Persons who have been diagnosed with or have had contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
 - Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital, or health agency within the last 14 days.
 - The Federal Protective Service and Court Security Officers will enforce the posted building restrictions. Visitors must review signage regarding the criteria for exclusion from the courthouse and answer whether they meet the criteria for restriction. Those answering "yes" to any of the criteria for restriction will be denied access to the courthouse. Visitors who visibly appear to have the symptoms listed above will also be denied entry to the building. All other security requirements for entrance, such as showing proper identification and passing through a magnetometer, remain in effect.
 - Visitors are expected to perform hand hygiene at the point of entry, and practice social distancing while in the courthouse.
 - Visitors will be asked to leave if they do not follow these standards or maintain social distancing as directed.
- Members of the public not permitted access to the courthouse may call for assistance:
 - East St. Louis District Court Help Desk: 866-867-3169 / Benton District Court Help Desk: 866-222-2104
 - East St. Louis Bankruptcy Court: 618-482-9400 / Benton Bankruptcy Court: 618-435-2200
 - East St. Louis U.S. Marshals Service: 618-482-9336 / Benton U.S. Marshals Service: 618-439-7701
 - Federal Public Defender's Office:
 - Steve Welby, Federal Public Defender: 314-409-3172
 - Preston Humphrey, First Assistant: 314-496-3883
 - Laura Wildermuth, Administrative Officer: 618-910-7427
 - Additional information is posted on <https://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov> and each Court or agency's public webpage.