

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

Leticia Vargas, Administrator of)
the Estate of Angel Cruz,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) No. 18-cv-1865
Sheriff of Cook County, County of Cook,)
Augustus Alabi, Avis Calhoun, Lorraine Chatman,)
Anita Johnson, Helen Kanel, Cherri Krzyzowski,)
Elizabeth P. Lassen, Manuel Manalastas,)
Dr. Steve Paschos, Jason Sprague, and)
Jaruwan Supasanguan,)
Defendants.)

**COOK COUNTY'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER
REGARDING PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14 OF THIS COURT'S STANDING ORDER**

Defendant, COOK COUNTY, by its attorney KIMBERLY M. FOXX, Cook County State's Attorney, through its Assistant State's Attorney William R. Ragen, moves the Court for a protective order to relax the provisions of paragraphs 13 and 14 of this Court's Standing Order, as explained below.

1. This case arises from the death of plaintiff of plaintiff's decedent while a detainee at the Cook County Jail. Plaintiff seeks substantial damages. The parties have agreed to participate in a settlement conference, (ECF Docket #127), now scheduled for June 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. (ECF Docket #129)

2. Any settlement of this case must be approved by the Litigation Subcommittee of the Cook County Board of Commissioners. The Litigation Subcommittee is very respectful of settlement recommendations made by the Court and undersigned counsel is confident that, if the

counsel for the parties agree to the Court's recommendation, the Subcommittee will accept that recommendation and authorize the settlement.

3. This Court's Standing Order appears to require that Cook County would need to have actual authority to bind Cook County. As the Litigation Subcommittee meets only once a month and has notice requirements it must adhere to under Illinois law, it would not be possible for Cook County to attend the June 7 settlement conference with the ability to bind Cook County.

4. Undersigned counsel has negotiated many settlements on behalf of Cook County. A number of those settlements have been by and through settlement conferences before other judges within the United States' District Court for the Northern District of Illinois within the Eastern Division. In those situations, the undersigned has negotiated a settlement that would be binding on Cook County with only one condition – approval by the Litigation Subcommittee.

5. Plaintiff's counsel has also negotiated a number of settlements with Cook County. Plaintiff's counsel has almost always negotiated a settlement that was binding on Cook County with only one condition – approval by the Litigation Subcommittee.

6. Defendant Cook County therefore respectfully requests that the Court relax the provisions of paragraphs 13 and 14 of this Court's Standing Order and permit counsel to represent the interests of Cook County at the settlement conference with the ability to make an offer to settle the matter subject only to approval by the Litigation Subcommittee.

7. Undersigned counsel and plaintiff's attorneys have substantial experience in resolving contested matters at settlement conferences and then securing the approval of the Litigation Subcommittee. Accordingly, all counsel believe settlement will be most easily

achieved if the Court could relax the provisions of paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Court's standing order.

8. All parties have conferred on this topic and no party has any opposition to relax the provisions of paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Court's standing order as outlined above.

Respectfully submitted,

KIMBERLY M. FOXX
State's Attorney of Cook County

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For the County of Cook

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, William R. Ragen, Assistant State's Attorney, certify that, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5, LR 5.5, and the General Order on Electronic Case Filing (ECF), I served this motion, together with the documents herein referred, electronically via the ECF-CM system to the above-named attorneys on May 10, 2021.

/s/ William R. Ragen
Counsel for County of Cook