

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

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2015-01

**SUBJECT: DISSOLUTION OF THE UNCONTESTED VACANT RESIDENTIAL
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE CALLS
(VACATES GAO 2011-03, 2012-01, AND 2013-04)**

A pilot program for an uncontested vacant residential mortgage foreclosure call began on January 1, 2012. General Administrative Order 2011-03 established the specific vacant calls to address concerns raised by representatives from government bodies and community groups who sought additional ways to alleviate the public safety hazards associated with vacant and abandoned property. The program established a specific call for vacant properties and a mechanism from transferring cases to the vacant call. These calls are currently assigned to judges who are dually assigned to the Municipal Department and to the Chancery Division.

Since commencement of the program on January 1, 2012, less than 1% of cases filed each year are identified as vacant. Specifically, the filing numbers are as follows:

Year	Total New Filings	New Vacant Filings
2012	41,993	403
2013	24,854	180
2014	17,205	104

Additionally, over the past three years, only approximately 39 previously-filed cases were later identified as vacant and transferred to the vacant calendars. The under-utilization of these vacant calendars indicate to the court that vacant properties are handled efficiently and effectively by the ten main foreclosure calendars and do not need a special call to achieve the statutorily allowed expedited judgments. Therefore, as a matter of judicial economy, the need does not exist for special vacant property foreclosure calendars.

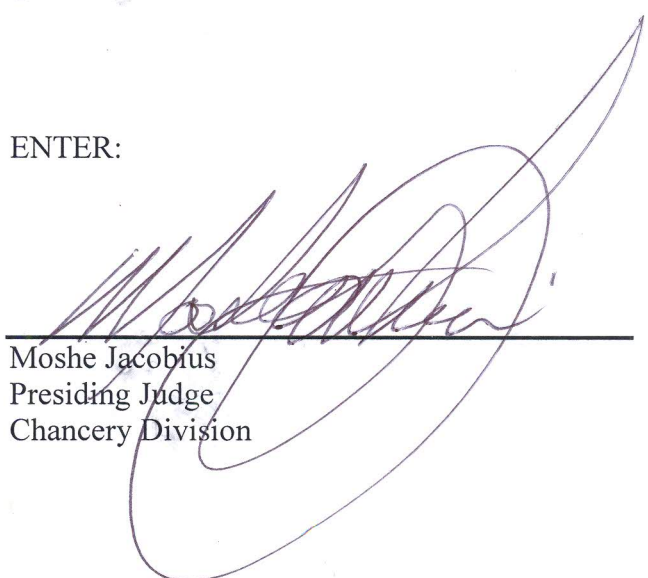
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. This General Administrative Order 2015-01 supersedes all prior general administrative orders entered and related to the uncontested vacant residential mortgage foreclosure call. General Administrative Orders 2011-03, 2012-01, and 2013-04 are vacated.
2. Chancery Division, Mortgage Foreclosure Calendars 65, 66, and 67 are dissolved effective April 1, 2015. The judges assigned to Calendars 65, 66, and 67 will retain jurisdiction after April 1, 2015 to dispose of any cases assigned to those calendars prior to April 1, 2015. No cases shall be assigned to Calendars 65, 66, or 67 starting on April 1, 2015.

3. The Clerk of the Court shall retain the vacant property codes for the Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics Lien Cover Sheet previously established in General Administrative Order 2011-03 and 2013-04:
 - 0036 (Vacant Land)
 - 0038 (Vacant Residential (six (6) units or less))
 - 0039 (Vacant Residential Single-Family Home or Condominium)
 - 0040 (Vacant residential, mixed commercial/residential (six (6) units or less))
 - 0041 (Vacant Multi-unit residential (seven (7) or more units))
4. The Clerk of the Court is directed to randomize mortgage foreclosure cases designated as categories 0036 (Vacant Land), 0038 (Vacant Residential (six (6) units or less)), 0039 (Vacant Residential Single-Family Home or Condominium), 0040 (Vacant residential, mixed commercial/residential (six (6) units or less)), and 0041 (Vacant Multi-unit residential (seven (7) or more units)) equally among mortgage foreclosure Calendars 55 through 64 starting on April 1, 2015.
5. The Clerk of the Court shall assign a case management date to each case filed under categories 0036 (Vacant Land), 0038 (Vacant Residential (six (6) units or less)), 0039 (Vacant Residential Single-Family Home or Condominium), 0040 (Vacant residential, mixed commercial/residential (six (6) units or less)), and 0041 (Vacant Multi-unit residential (seven (7) or more units)) of ninety (90) days from the date of filing in accordance with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 218.
6. A plaintiff who seeks an expedited judgment pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/15-1505.8 (2013) must first try to obtain a motion date with the Clerk's Office. If the first available date is not within the timeframe set forth in Section 15-1505.8, the plaintiff may contact the assigned judge's law clerk to obtain a motion date and time that complies with the statute. Plaintiffs should refer to any instructions in the Mortgage Foreclosure Courtroom Procedures or a judge's specific standing order.

ENTER:

Date: January 13, 2015



Moshe Jacobius
Presiding Judge
Chancery Division