STATE OF ILLINOIS) SS COUNTY OF DU PAGE)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF MODIFICATIONS AND) Administrative Order 24-4 ADDITIONS TO THE CIRCUIT COURT RULES)

WHEREAS, the Circuit Judges of the 18th Judicial Circuit adopted local Circuit Court Rules on November 16, 2004; and

WHEREAS, from time to time the Circuit Judges find it necessary to ratify and codify certain revisions, amendments and additions to said local Circuit Court Rules; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2024, Circuit Court Rule 15:20 Entry of Judgment was amended adding Article 15, 15.20 (g).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that these changes, shown as adopted in Exhibit A attached hereto, were adopted into the local Circuit Court Rules to be effective immediately.

ENTER:

Monnie M. Wheaton

Chief Judge

Dated: April 5, 2024 Wheaton, Illinois

15.20 ENTRY OF JUDGMENT

- (a) The Court shall designate who will prepare the judgment and when the judgment shall be tendered for entry. Non-payment of attorney fees will not be recognized as good cause for the Judgment entry to be withheld.
- (b) (Reserved)
- (c) (Reserved)
- (d) When a Judgment resolving a domestic relations matter requires the payment of an amount of money for reasons other than child support or maintenance, the Judgment order shall be entitled Judgment for Dissolution and Money Judgment.
- (e) At the prove-up of a dissolution of marriage/legal separation/declaration of invalidity of marriage case/dissolution of a civil union, if Judgment is not entered that day, the case shall be continued to a date certain not to exceed six (6) weeks from the close of proofs at 10:55 a.m., for the entry of the judgment order.
- (f) If the judgment resolving a domestic relations matter is not presented for entry on or before the date provided under paragraph (e), above, then before entry of the judgment, the Court may require an affidavit from counsel as to the reason for failure to comply. Non-payment of attorney fees will not be recognized as good cause.
- (g) The Domestic Relations Judges will review and consider entering final judgments and parental allocation judgments presented to them electronically, subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) Parties and their attorneys can email their fully executed proposed settlement documents to include the Judgment, Marital Settlement Agreement, Allocation Judgment and Parenting Plan (if applicable) and copy of the Certificate of Dissolution (half/sheet) to the Court for the assigned Judge's review and possible entry.
 - (2) The Allocation Judgment/Parenting Plan may enter as an Agreed Order following review as presumed to be in the best interest of the minor children if signed by both parties. All mandatory clauses shall be included within the Plan (e.g., mediation provision).

- (3) With respect to the Marital Settlement Agreement, setting of child support and maintenance shall reference calculation pursuant to statute (i.e., income and duration, income sharing) and/or specify the basis for deviation and/or waiver or reservation of the same. Disproportionate distribution of marital property (assets and liabilities), if any, shall also be explained.
- (4) The parties shall both sign and submit a notarized affidavit containing the following:
 - (i) Agreement that the Court has both personal and subject matter jurisdiction.
 - (ii) Stipulation as to the grounds and description of grounds.
 - (iii) Review of the Agreement in its entirety by the parties.
 - (iv) Number of children born or adopted by the parties, emancipation of those children if appropriate, and the parties present conditions as to pregnancy.
 - (v) An understanding of the terms of the Agreement and intent to be bound by them by the parties and that no one was coerced to sign the same.
 - (vi) Entry into the Agreement freely and voluntarily by the parties.
 - (vii) A belief that the Agreement is a fair and equitable division of the marital estate.
 - (viii) Waiver of appearance at a prove-up by the parties.
 - (ix) Waiver of a transcript from a prove-up by the parties.
 - (x) If either side is a self-represented litigant, it should indicate their acknowledgment that they are not represented by opposing counsel and that they have had/waived the opportunity to confer with outside counsel prior to signing the Agreement.
 - (xi) The parties desire that the Court approve their Agreement(s), incorporate it/them into the Judgment and enter the Final Judgment of Dissolution.

- (xii) The Agreement must comment as to resumption of former names by either party, if appropriate.
- (xiii) The parties waive cross examination of the other party.
- (xiv) The parties waive physical presence in Court for these proceedings, as well as notice.
- (xv) Proof of completion of parenting class where applicable by both parties.
- (5) Entry of Said Final Judgment shall be at the Court's discretion.
- (6) The Circuit Court Clerk has already assigned future dates to all affected cases. The attorneys or parties shall also submit an agreed order striking all such future dates.
- (7) Withholding Order and other similar post-judgment orders such as Q.D.R.O.'s shall be presented separately as Agreed Orders after Judgment is entered.