

LEGAL NOTICE

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

**IF YOU REQUESTED SERVICE OF SUMMONS THROUGH THE
SHERIFF'S
"E-FILE" PORTAL FROM MARCH 14, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2020, PAID THE
REQUIRED FEE, BUT SERVICE OF SUMMONS WERE NOT SERVED
DUE TO COVID-19 EMERGENCY ESSENTIAL CIVIL PROCESS
PROCEDURES, AND YOUR FEES WERE RETAINED BY THE SHERIFF,
THEN YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO A PAYMENT FROM A CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT.**

Robert A. Langendorf, P.C., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Thomas J. Dart, in his official capacity as Sheriff of Cook County, and the County of Cook,

Case No. 2020 CH 6129

www.cookcountysheriffCOVID19settlement.com

A settlement has been reached with Cook County ("Defendant") in a class action lawsuit about whether it improperly retained fees when service of summons which were requested through the sheriff's "e-file" portal from March 14, 2020 to June 30, 2020, and some summonses were not attempted due to the COVID-19 Emergency Essential Civil Process Procedures. Defendant does not deny it retained fees paid for service of summons, but contends it did so properly and in accordance with applicable law.

Am I included? You are included in the settlement as a "Class Member" if you requested and paid for service of summons from March 14, 2020 to June 30, 2020, but service was not attempted because of COVID-19 Emergency Essential Civil Process Procedures.

What does the settlement provide? Defendant has agreed to create a Settlement Fund of \$900,000 to reimburse those parties who requested service from March 14, 2020 to June 30, 2020, but service was not attempted.

How do I get a payment? You may make a claim for reimbursement for these fees paid by you if there was no refund of the fee. You must complete and submit the Claim Form postmarked or submitted online by no later than February 27, 2025 to receive a payment. If you are entitled to a payment, a check will be mailed to you at the last known address Defendant has for you.

What are my other options? If you do nothing, your rights will be affected and you might not get a payment. If you don't want to be legally bound by the settlement, you must exclude yourself from it by February 27, 2025. Unless you exclude yourself, you won't be able to sue or continue to sue Defendant or related parties for any claim made in this lawsuit or released by the Settlement Agreement. If you stay in the settlement (i.e., don't exclude yourself), you may object to it and ask for permission for you or your lawyer to appear and speak at the hearing—at your own cost—but you don't have to. Objections are due by February 27, 2025.

The Court's Fairness Hearing. The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing by Zoom (Zoom Meeting ID: 940 2402 4757, Password: 739301) in this case (*Robert A. Langendorf P.C., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Thomas J. Dart, in his official capacity as Sheriff of Cook County, and the County of Cook*, Case No. 2020 CH 6129) on March 13, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. to consider whether to approve: the settlement; a request for one-third of the Settlement Fund in attorneys' fees and costs (\$300,000); and a \$7,500 service award for the class representative. If approved, these amounts, as well as

the costs of administration, will be deducted from the Settlement Fund before making payments to qualifying Class Members.

Questions? Detailed information about the settlement, including complete details on how to exclude yourself or object, is available at www.cookcountysheriffCOVID19settlement.com or by calling 1-888-726-1305.

Larry D. Drury has been appointed as Class Counsel. Mr. Drury can be reached with questions at ldd@larrydrury.com.