

# **Lake County Illinois**

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex  
18 N. County Street  
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



## **Agenda Report - Final**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**

**10:30 AM**

**Assembly Room, 10th Floor or register for remote attendance at:  
<https://bit.ly/4qWCYd8>**

**Law & Judicial Committee**

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:** The public can attend Lake County Committee and Board meetings in one of two ways:

- (1) In-person attendance is on the 10th Floor of the County Administrative Tower, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois.
- (2) Remote attendance through an electronic conferencing application (register via the link on the front page of the agenda).

**RECORDING:** Meetings, to include Public Comment, will be recorded.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

An opportunity for Public Comment will be provided during the meeting in accordance with the Lake County Board Rules of Order and Operational Procedures. At the time of Public Comment, it will proceed in the following order: (1) Public Comment by individuals in attendance and then (2) Public Comment by individuals attending remotely through an electronic conferencing application. Individuals may provide written Public Comment that must be received by 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting (emailed to [PublicComment@Lakecountyil.gov](mailto:PublicComment@Lakecountyil.gov) or delivered to the County Board Office, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois, (10th floor)). Written comments will be circulated to the Members, but not read aloud.

**PLEASE NOTE:** An individual is allowed 3 minutes total for one or more public comments.

Individuals providing Public Comment will provide the following information:  
**Meeting:** Law and Judicial Committee (Subject line for written Public Comment)  
**Topic or Agenda Item #:** (REQUIRED)  
**Name:** (REQUIRED)  
**Organization/Entity Represented:** (REQUIRED) ("Self" if representing self)  
**Street Address, City, State:** (Optional)  
**Phone Number:** (Optional)  
**Email:** May be REQUIRED for remote attendance

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Members
4. Addenda to the Agenda
5. Public Comment
6. Chair's Remarks
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business

**CONSENT AGENDA (Items 8.1 - 8.3)**

**\*MINUTES\***

8.1 **26-0095**

Committee action approving the Law and Judicial Committee minutes from January 6, 2026.

**Attachments:** [L&J 1.6.26 Final Minutes](#)

**\*REPORTS\***

8.2 **26-0077**

Report from Jennifer Banek, Coroner, for the month of October 2025.

**Attachments:** [L&JrepOCT25](#)

8.3 **26-0078**

Report from Jennifer Banek, Coroner, for the month of November 2025.

**Attachments:** [L&JrepNOV25](#)

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**\*NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT\***

8.4 **26-0113**

Joint resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation with offsetting revenue in the amount of \$14,000 to support the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court's Disability Accessibility Improvement Program.

- The Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice has awarded the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court \$14,000 to support the work of the Court's Disability Accessibility Improvement Program.
- Funds are to support the Court's commitment to providing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) through the purchasing of an

automatic door opener for the Lake County Law Library and to provide additional funding to cover increased expenses for Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) reporter services and court reporter transcripts.

- The grant funds of \$14,000 will cover the entire amount of the related programming.

**Attachments:** [Courts\\_Disability Grant\\_14000\\_EA](#)

[2026 Disability Access Grant Agreement - Lake County Signed.pdf](#)

#### 8.5 [26-0114](#)

Joint resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation with offsetting revenue in the amount of \$12,000 to support a trauma-informed mural project at the Hulse Detention Center.

- The Illinois Arts Council has awarded the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court \$12,000 to support the work of the Court's Disability Accessibility Improvement Program.
- Funds are to support partnership with local artist Everett Reynolds and will include the creation of three murals in high-traffic, communal areas of the facility. Youth residents will actively participate in the design and creation of the murals, promoting creativity, expression, connection, and a sense of ownership. The murals will feature themes of growth, hope, family, nature, rebirth, and endless possibilities.
- This will be in accordance with Lake County's Ordinance § 37.039, which governs display of material on county-controlled property.
- The total cost for the mural project is estimated at \$18,000 and any additional funds exceeding the grant award will be covered by the Fiscal Year 2026 Circuit Court Budget.

**Attachments:** [Courts\\_IAC Grant\\_12000\\_EA](#)

[Grant Agreement - 2026-0047678 Creative Projects 2026 - Organization.](#)

### **\*PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE\***

#### 8.6 [26-0042](#)

Joint resolution authorizing two new Principal Public Defenders to staff a newly consolidated Domestic Violence courtroom, at an estimated cost of approximately \$135,000 for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026.

- The Courts have indicated they will be consolidating all felony Domestic Violence cases into a singular Courtroom in May of 2026. This consolidation is intended to develop specialized expertise in these cases and enhance coordination.
- It is not possible for the Public Defender's Office to adequately staff this new courtroom without additional staffing. Therefore, the Public Defender's Office is requesting two additional Principal Public Defenders, Grade Salary 16, to focus their efforts on the cases within the new Domestic Violence courtroom.
- Existing space, computers and phone equipment are already available to

accommodate the new positions.

- Due to the timing of this courtroom consolidation, these positions were not included in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. At this time, no additional funding is necessary because the Public Defender has agreed to stagger the two positions according to caseload capacity. However, depending on the other vacancies in the department, it may be necessary to augment the Public Defender budget with the budgeted salary contingency closer to the end of the fiscal year.

**Attachments:** [CFDV Memo v3](#)

[HR Memo Princ Public Def Positions](#)

**\*STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE\***

**8.7 [26-0080](#)**

Joint resolution authorizing the acceptance and execution of a Healing Illinois grant awarded to the Lake County State's Attorney's Office through the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) as a subgrantee of the Lake County YWCA, to fund a gun violence prevention mural to promote community building and engagement in Lake County and an emergency appropriation of \$12,000 in grant funds.

- The Lake County State's Attorney's Office has been awarded \$12,000 in grant funds by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) as a subgrantee of the Lake County YWCA.
- The grant period is November 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
- The Lake County State's Attorney's Office will use these funds in the amount of \$12,000 to fund a 600 sq ft. painted mural located at 501 Foss Park Ave in North Chicago. The purpose is to bring gun violence awareness to the community.

**Attachments:** [Budget Summary Healing Illinois \\$12k.pdf](#)

**8.8 [26-0098](#)**

Joint resolution authorizing the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 for a continued participation fee of \$55,000.

- This is a renewal for the continued operation of the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor Program.
- Through this program the State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor handles Lake County criminal appeals, provides investigative and prosecutorial support in criminal cases, provides comprehensive training programs for prosecutors, and provides monthly case law newsletters, legislative updates, and Uniform Complaint Book supplements.
- The State's Attorney's Appellate Prosecutor's office of the State of Illinois requires a formal resolution for participation in the program.
- The State's Attorney's approved FY 2026 budget includes the \$55,000 expense.

- 9. County Administrator's Report**
  - 10. Executive Session**
  - 11. Member Remarks and Requests**
  - 12. Adjournment**
- Next Meeting: February 3, 2026**