

**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.

