



Circuit Court of St. Louis County

DIVISION 16
105 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
CLAYTON, MISSOURI 63105

MICHAEL D. BURTON
PRESIDING JUDGE
(314) 615-1516

February 26, 2021
Re: New Satellite Court

Hello!

I just wanted to let you know about the opening of our new satellite court at the St. Louis County Government Center at the Crossings in the old Northwest Plaza in St. Ann.

We know how challenging it can be for so many County residents to get to the Courthouse in Clayton. Remote proceedings have addressed this problem quite well: we are reaching many people whom we have not reached before the onset of the pandemic.

We know very well, however, that many people do not have access to laptops and I-phones. This is very concerning at time when we are still not having in-person proceedings. While we hope that we will be getting to Phase Three in the near future, we want to do whatever we can to ensure that all litigants have the ability to access our courts. Access to justice is a huge priority for this Circuit.

The satellite court is clearly a silver lining of this pandemic. People can now come to the facility in St. Ann to be set up remotely and connect with hearings in Clayton. We envision of course that these virtual proceedings will continue long past the pandemic.

Starting on Monday, people can obtain orders of protection at the satellite court. (Last year, we began a process that enables individuals to seek *ex parte* orders on-line. They can then attend their hearings remotely, without ever having to be in the same building as the alleged offenders.)

Please see the attached flyer for details. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me anytime.

Thanks so much.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Burton