

**United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois**

David Martin,  
Plaintiff

V.

Attorney General Kwame Raoul  
Judge Gregory Emmett Ahern Jr.  
Unnamed Cook County Clerks  
Cook County  
Chief Deputy Clerk Gretchen Peterson

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Case # 1:22-cv-06296

**MOTION TO STAY COURT HEARINGS  
PENDING JUDGMENT ON RESTRAINING ORDER**

I, David Martin, respectfully submit this motion requesting that all court hearings be stayed until after a judgment is entered on my motion for a temporary restraining order. In support of this motion I state the following:

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**FACTS**

1. On November 11<sup>th</sup> 2022, I filed a removal petition in the U.S. District Court.  
  
However, Judge Ahern continued to conduct court room proceedings in the circuit court of cook county.
2. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023, Judge Ahern issued a warrant for my arrest.
3. On September 14<sup>th</sup> 2023, I filed a motion for a temporary restraining order requesting that the arrest warrant be vacated.
4. On October 10<sup>th</sup> 2023, I presented the motion to Judge Andrea Wood and both the defendant's and I gave oral arguments over the matter.
5. On November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Judge Wood agreed that the case was properly removed, and that she would enter a judgment on January 25<sup>th</sup> 2024.

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6. On January 25<sup>th</sup> 2024, the court date was stricken and reset for February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.
7. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024. Judge wood again agreed that the case was properly removed, and said that she would enter her judgment on February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024.
8. On February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024<sup>th</sup>, the court date was stricken and reset for March 13<sup>th</sup> 2024.
9. On March 13<sup>th</sup> 2024, I expressed to Judge wood that I was concerned about the warrant for my arrest. She said that she would enter her judgment on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2024.
10. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 a general order was issued to transfer my case to the Honorable Sunil R. Harjani.
11. On April 15<sup>th</sup> 2024, I filed a motion to retain Judge Andrea Wood.
12. On April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024, the Honorable Sunil R. Harjani entered an order denying my motion to retain Judge Wood. Stating "This case has been reassigned to this Court and the case is not particularly complex or unique that requires Judge Wood to remain on the case; in addition, parties do not get their choice of judge under the Court's local rules on reassignment."
13. On or around April 26<sup>th</sup> 2024, I became unemployed.

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**ARGUMENT**

I argue that there is currently an unlawful warrant for my arrest. After the warrant was issued, I have had several hearings with Judge Wood to vacate the unlawful warrant. Prior to transferring this case... there wasn't much left to do but enter a decision. Judge Wood was intimately familiar with this case and in fact, on multiple occasions, she had agreed that the case was properly removed. Judge Wood's familiarity of this case places her in the position to quickly resolve all the claims between me and the defendant Ahern. Judge Wood was not my "choice of judge". I only requested that the case be retained by her because most of the case had already been litigated and there was really nothing left for her to do but enter a judgment. However, at this point the case has been reassigned and I have no choice but to live with this decision.

I should point out that my situation has become somewhat dire. As I have become unemployed, and an employer may not hire me because there is a warrant for my arrest. I would like to ask that all court hearings be stayed until after a judgment has been entered on my motion for a temporary restraining order. The stay of court hearings, If granted, would give me a chance to focus on finding new employment and keep food on the table.

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Wherefore I pray:

1. Any remedy that this court can provide.
2. That all court hearings are stayed until after a judgment on the temporary restraining order.

Date of signing: 4/28/24  
David Martin  
5352 S. Princeton, Chicago IL 60649  
Email: martinvtompson@gmail.com  
Signature of Plaintiff

*David Martin*