

Introduction to the 2026-2027 Edition

This 2026-2027 Edition of the *Illinois Civil Litigation Guide* replaces the 2025-2026 Edition of this treatise.

This publication is intended as a convenient compilation of rules and statutes governing civil practice in Illinois courts. The treatise is presented according to subject matter in an order that generally follows the stages of civil litigation.

The rules governing Illinois civil practice have been updated for this 2026-2027 Edition, reflecting amendments to several Illinois Supreme Court Rules, including Rules 90 (conduct of arbitration hearings), 99 (mediation programs), and 99.1 (mortgage foreclosure mediation programs). In addition, Rule 99.2 was adopted effective on March 1, 2026, and sets forth the requirements for circuit court mediation programs designed to assist tenants and landlords in residential eviction cases.

This volume also reflects amendments to several sections of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure. Some of the most notable amendments include substantial changes to numerous sections of the Code governing enforcement of judgments that were included in Public Act 104-120, which became effective on January 1, 2026.

Practitioners should note that seven sections of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure that are included in this volume are affected by rulings of the Illinois Supreme Court that have held certain statutory amendments unconstitutional and void. In each such instance, the text of the statute as amended by the legislature is set forth, as well as the text of the statute as it existed before the amendment that was struck down as unconstitutional. The affected sections of the Code are: 2-604.1 (pleading of punitive damages); 2-621 (product liability actions); 2-1105 (jury demands); 2-1107.1 (jury instructions in tort actions); 2-1109 (itemized verdicts); 2-1116 (limitations on recoveries in tort actions); and 13-217 (refiling an action after reversal or dismissal).

As usual, the Author's Comments have been refreshed with reference to amended and newly-adopted rules and statutes and updated throughout with citations to many new decisions of the Illinois Supreme Court and the Appellate Courts relevant to numerous aspects of Illinois civil practice.