

Simpson County Circuit Court delays court term

Sept. 16, 2005

All Circuit Court trials previously scheduled during the month of September in Simpson County have been postponed as a result of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

Circuit Judge Robert G. Evans entered two orders on Sept. 7. The orders cover all Circuit Court trials which had been scheduled during the period of Sept. 6 to Sept. 29. However, all Circuit Court motion hearings will go forward as scheduled.

Judge Evans said that the September term of Court for Simpson County was scheduled to begin Sept. 6. At that time the area was without power and telephone service, and a gasoline shortage was anticipated. Prisoners held at the Simpson County Jail had been transferred to other jails farther north. Potential jurors needed time to reorganize their homes, lives and businesses.

Judge Evans noted that the only damage to court facilities in the 13th Circuit Court District was to the Jasper County Courthouse in Paulding. The courthouse had minor damage from a fallen tree. The damage is expected to be repaired before the start of the next court term there in February 2006.

No damage was reported to courthouses in Simpson, Smith and Covington counties.

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