

## **Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center to Close Dec. 31, 2023**

On behalf of the Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center, Chief Judge Melissa A. Morgan announced today that the facility will cease operations due to staffing shortages effective December 31, 2023.

The Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center has always been committed to providing the best services for youth entrusted in its care and that commitment has never wavered. The pursuit to meet mandated enhanced programming goals and the enactment of new legislation related to confined juveniles will require greater staffing in juvenile detention. Unfortunately, like many other businesses and entities throughout the state, workforce shortages have become increasingly difficult to manage. “While the facility has made tremendous strides in delivering services, the totality of circumstances in these challenging times necessitates closure. I believe this course of action is in the best interest of the juveniles, staff, and communities we serve,” Chief Judge Morgan said.

“On behalf of the facility’s Administration, I appreciate the dedication, support, and excellent service that our staff has shown over the years. I also appreciate the support of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Franklin County Board, and our local community leaders,” added Chief Judge Morgan.

The decision to cease operations is made even more difficult by the loss of committed employees. All employees at the facility have been provided notice of the intended closure and to ease this transition period, will be compensated for an additional 30 days. For more information, please contact the Office of the Chief Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit, 911 Casey Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.