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MEMORANDUM

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On June 16, 2021, Governor Pritzker signed House Bill 3922 into law (Public Act 102-0014) which recognizes June 19th as a State holiday, effective January 1, 2022. The Act specifically states, “Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when June nineteenth shall fall on a Saturday or Sunday, neither the preceding Friday nor the following Monday shall be held or considered as a paid holiday.”

On June 17, 2021, President Biden signed into law the Juneteenth National Independence Act, amending 5 U.S.C. 6103(a) making June 19th a Federal holiday for most Federal employees. Because June 19th falls on a Saturday this year, most federal employees will observe the holiday on Friday, June 18, 2021.

On June 17, 2021, Governor Pritzker announced State government offices would be closed on Friday, June 18, 2021 to observe Juneteenth as a Federal holiday. The Governor has the authority to close State government offices in observance of a holiday under his authority as Chief Executive Officer for the State.

Counties are not bound by the closure of the State offices on June 18, 2021 and may continue with today as normally scheduled. Counties should be mindful though of observing their own laws as well as local ordinances. Each county’s holiday schedule may be specific to the county and its laws, procedures, and practice. Additionally, counties should review collective bargaining agreements and any other employment contracts to determine whether the addition of a State and/or Federal holiday impacts the employee’s schedule and/or paid holidays.

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Disclaimer: This opinion was prepared by Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C. at the request of UCCI and is to be used solely by UCCI and its members. The State’s Attorney is the attorney for the County. Legal advice, if requested, should be sought from the State’s Attorney.