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FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge  
19th Judicial Circuit  
Lake County  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

Date of Release: December 30, 2020  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Waukegan, Illinois

## **SAFE-T ACT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN LAKE COUNTY ON JANUARY 1, 2023**

Earlier this week, a trial court judge in the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit, Kankakee County, found that certain parts of the so-called SAFE-T Act are unconstitutional. However, under the law, a trial court's finding that a statute is unconstitutional only applies to the parties in the case. State's Attorneys in 64 of Illinois' 102 counties joined the lawsuit; consequently, the ruling applies only in those counties, leaving the law intact in the other counties.

"While it is presumed that an appeal will be made to the Illinois Supreme Court, the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court will begin following the SAFE-T Act on Sunday, January 1, 2023," said Chief Judge Mark L. Levitt.

Because the Lake County State's Attorney did not join the lawsuit against the SAFE-T Act, Lake County was not part of the case, therefore, must continue with the implementation of the new law until and unless the Illinois Supreme Court addresses its constitutionality or another order of the court that includes Lake County is entered.

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