

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 4, 2025

Geneva, IL –Kane County Clerk John A. Cunningham



CLERK CUNNINGHAM ANNOUNCES RECORD SETTING MONTH FOR PASSPORT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED BY CLERK'S OFFICE

Kane County Clerk John A. Cunningham announced today that the Kane County Clerk's Office processed **1,024 new passport applications** during the month of January, setting a **record** for the highest number of passport applications ever processed in a single month by the office. 660 applications were completed in Geneva, and 364 were done in the Aurora satellite office.

Clerk Cunningham said, "We have seen a significant increase in passport applications in the last few years, as we have surpassed our annual numbers in the last 3 years, but the demand this year has exceeded what we have ever seen. There are a number of factors involved, including an increased demand for travel, the upcoming federal deadline to have either a passport or a REAL ID compliant document for travel, and the desire for families to secure identification documents for their children."

For context, over the past 15 years, **the Clerk's Office has processed an average of 276 passport applications** in January. The total in January 2025 was nearly four times that average. 652 applications were processed in January 2023, and 582 were processed in 2024.

First-time applicants can apply for a passport in person at the Clerk's Office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday or from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday. For a user fee of \$15 per person, passport applicants can also have a passport photograph taken simultaneously. For information about the passport photography service, application fees, acceptable forms of ID, or passports generally, visit clerk.kanecountyil.gov/Records/Passports/passports.aspx or call (630) 232-5964.

The revenue generated by the Clerk's Office from passport applications and the passport photography service is sent to the county's general fund, which **helps save money for Kane County taxpayers**.

Cunningham added, "**The U.S. Department of State has recognized our office for our excellent customer service, professionalism, and integrity**. We were one of a small group of passport acceptance agencies to receive a perfect score in our review by the State Department. I am proud of my staff's work to serve our customers, especially with the high demand for passports, and we look forward to assisting you and your family in applying for a passport."

Because of the upcoming May 7 federal deadline for all travelers to have either a passport or a REAL ID-compliant state-issued driver's license, Cunningham encourages residents to consider beginning the passport application process sooner rather than later to avoid lines and potential delays from the U.S. Department of State closer to the implementation deadline.

The Kane County Clerk's Office is an authorized acceptance agency for passports. The Clerk's Office performs several other significant functions, including custodian of County records, registrar of vital records, chief election official, and tax extension. The Clerk's Office provides information and resources to residents through the Clerk's website clerk.kanecountyil.gov, X at x.com/KaneCoILClerk, and Facebook at www.facebook.com/kanecountyclerk.

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