

HB 1633 -- PUBLIC ACCESS TO ARREST WARRANT RECORDS

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This bill restricts the public's access through any electronic case management system to arrest warrants, probable cause affidavits, or associated court records connected to a covered offense, defined in the bill, until the warrant has been executed or a prosecuting attorney files a written motion and the court determines that public disclosure of the warrant is necessary to protect public safety or advance the administration of justice. The bill provides exceptions to these provisions. This bill also provides civil and criminal immunity for court clerks, judges, and state and local officials when these individuals restrict access to information in good faith compliance with the requirements.

The Office of State Courts Administrator will create rules and procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements of the bill. The provisions of this bill amend Missouri Court Operating Rule 2.04 relating to access to case records and the provisions of the bill will govern in the event of a conflict between the statute and the court rule.