

**IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER S-2020-023  
(Supersedes Administrative Order S-2020-019)**

**COURT PROCEEDINGS DURING COVID-19  
MITIGATION EFFORTS – PHASE II**

As a result of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Administrative Order S-2020-019 was entered on March 18, 2020, suspending certain non-essential and non-critical court proceedings and establishing limitations on in-person court proceedings. Since then, Chief Justice Charles T. Canady of the Florida Supreme Court has issued several more administrative orders,<sup>1</sup> Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has issued numerous executive orders,<sup>2</sup> and President Donald Trump has issued a number of executive orders<sup>3</sup> – all in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group has likewise issued a Safer-At-Home order, among other decrees, directing that all residents stay at home as much as possible with exceptions for, among others, attorneys and all personnel associated with supporting essential court proceedings.

Based on the ever-changing landscape since the issuance of Administrative Order S-2020-019, it is necessary to continue mitigating the devastating effects of COVID-19 on participants involved in our justice system while also providing safe and effective access for those seeking justice through our court system. To the extent an order from the chief justice of the Florida Supreme Court is needed to further suspend or toll time deadlines imposed by statutes or court rules for full implementation of any provisions in this administrative order, the undersigned chief judge intends to make such a request at a later date. See Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.205(a)(2)(B).

By the power vested in the chief judge under article V, section 2(d), Florida Constitution; section 43.26, Florida Statutes; Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b); and Florida Supreme Court Administrative Orders AOSC20-17, AOSC20-18, AOSC20-19, and AOSC20-23, and in an effort to continue mitigating the effects of COVID-19 on the courts, court participants, and other stakeholders, it is ORDERED:

**1. Jury Suspension**

The current suspension of all petit jury selection proceedings and criminal and civil jury trials will continue until further order of the chief judge. All grand jury proceedings are suspended until further order of the chief judge.

**2. Limited In-Person Court Hearings**

Except as expressly provided in this administrative order, no in-person court hearings will be conducted in any Hillsborough County Courthouse facility for any case unless the presiding judge obtains the express permission of the chief judge.

**3. Small Claims and County Civil Cases**

All matters in cases filed in the County Civil Division may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing;<sup>4</sup> (b) audiovisual conferencing;<sup>5</sup> (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis<sup>6</sup>; or (d) a combination of these methods, except for residential eviction cases based solely on non-payment of rent and except for any mortgage foreclosure cases both of which have been temporarily stayed by the governor.<sup>7</sup> The presiding judges of the County Civil Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting small claims and county civil cases. The method(s) should be posted on the respective judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case. Scheduling of any pretrial conferences for small claims cases must be coordinated with the clerk's office.

**4. Civil Traffic Infraction Cases**

The current suspension of civil traffic dockets will continue until further order of the chief judge.

**5. Circuit Civil Cases**

**A. Generally**

All matters in cases filed in the Circuit Civil Division may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis;<sup>8</sup> or (d) a combination of these methods, except for any residential eviction cases based solely on non-payment of rent and except for mortgage foreclosure cases both of which have been temporarily stayed by the governor.<sup>9</sup> The presiding judges of the Circuit Civil Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting circuit civil cases. The method(s) should be posted on the respective judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

## B. Mission Critical Proceedings

The presiding judge of any mission critical proceeding enumerated below must make arrangements to conduct a hearing, if necessary, as soon as practicable after being notified of the matter. Any necessary hearing should be conducted, if possible, by teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing.

- Violation of quarantine or isolation orders (§381.00315(1)(c)4., Fla. Stat.);
- Violation of orders to limit travel (§252.36(5), Fla. Stat.);
- Violation of orders to close public or private buildings (§381.00315(4), Fla. Stat.);
- Habeas corpus petitions (§§381.00315(4) and 381.0012, Fla. Stat.); and
- Mandatory vaccinations (§381.00315(1)(c)4., Fla. Stat.).

## 6. Family Law Cases

### A. Generally

All matters in cases filed in the Family Law Division may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges, general magistrates, and non-Title IV-D child support enforcement hearing officers of the Family Law Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting family law cases. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's, general magistrate's, and non-Title IV-D hearing officer's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

### B. Shared Parenting

If a final judgment, temporary order, or other order of the court awards parental responsibility or time-sharing, the parties must follow the calendar as published in the order and neither parent is authorized to make a unilateral modification to the time-sharing calendar based on the COVID-19 pandemic. Any time-sharing modification will be based only upon the parties' mutual agreement or upon motion and subsequent court order. If the parties elect jointly to modify time-sharing consistent with this provision, the modification must be communicated in writing between the parents by e-mail, text, or parenting communication application (e.g. *OurFamilyWizard*® or *Talking Parents*).

### C. Parental Time-Sharing Exchanges

Parental time-sharing exchanges that were to take place at a child(ren)'s

school or daycare that is not currently open because of the COVID-19 pandemic should be arranged between the parents in writing by e-mail, text, or parenting communication application. If the parents cannot agree on an alternate arrangement, the exchanges will take place at the grocery store (Publix, Winn-Dixie, Walmart, or similar type store), home improvement store (Home Depot, Lowe's, or similar type store) or pharmacy (CVS, Walgreen's, or similar type pharmacy) that is located closest to the school or daycare as determined by the distance shown on Google Maps™, Apple Maps™, or some other similar mapping program or website. The parties must also clarify between themselves the specific times for exchanges in those cases where the exchange times are not specified. The Safer-At-Home order issued by the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group does not affect any parent or guardian "transporting a child or children pursuant to a custody sharing agreement or [o]rder."<sup>10</sup> Any filed motions relating to time-sharing exchanges will likely be ruled upon without a hearing.

D. Supervised Visitation at the Children's Justice Center

Any in-person supervised visitation previously court-ordered to be held at the Children's Justice Center (CJC) is suspended until further order of the chief judge. The general magistrate who recommended or the presiding judge who ordered the supervised visitation may determine any appropriate make-up visitation at a later date or consider whether or not telephonic calls could be utilized instead of CJC visits.

E. Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement

To the extent that child support enforcement hearing officers for Title IV-D cases can adequately conduct hearings either through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing, these remote appearance services should be used. If remote appearance services are not feasible to allow the parties to adequately participate in a hearing, then the hearing must be continued to a future date.

F. Emergency Motions

A true emergency exists "where, for example, a child is threatened with physical harm or is about to be improperly removed from the state..." *Gielchinsky v. Gielchinsky*, 662 So. 2d 732, 733 (Fla. 4th DCA 1995). The court, when considering any emergency motion, may require a notarized or sworn written response from the other parent prior to a teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing hearing being set and the court may rule upon the motion without any hearing.

**7. Protective Injunction Cases**

**A. Review of Petition**

Petitions for a temporary injunction for protection against (i) domestic violence; (ii) repeat violence; (iii) dating violence; (iv) sexual violence; or (v) stalking will be reviewed by the judge assigned in accordance with the procedures established in Administrative Orders S-2019-045 (*Family Law Division*).

**B. Return Hearings**

To the extent that return hearings can be adequately conducted either through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing, these remote appearance services should be used. If the presiding judge determines that a return hearing must be conducted via an in-person court appearance, then the presiding judge may conduct the in-person hearing in a courtroom as long as *all* participants (litigants, attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, court interpreters, and judge) are physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times.

**8. Juvenile Dependency Cases**

**A. Essential Court Proceedings**

The following dependency proceedings are considered essential: (i) daily shelter hearings; (ii) shelter reviews; (iii) reviews of emergency motions and petitions, including any matters that should be heard or adjudicated prior to a child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday; and (iv) uncontested motions for reunification. To the extent any essential dependency proceeding requires a hearing, including those with witness testimony, the hearing should be conducted through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing services. If the presiding judge determines that an essential dependency proceeding must be conducted via an in-person court appearance, then the presiding judge may conduct the in-person hearing in a courtroom as long as *all* participants (litigants, attorneys, bailiffs, case managers, clerks, court reporters, court interpreters, and judge) are physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times.

**B. Other Dependency Proceedings**

Except for the essential dependency proceedings enumerated above and except for adjudicatory hearings, all other dependency proceedings may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges and general magistrates of the Juvenile Dependency Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting non-essential dependency proceedings. The method(s) should be

posted on the individual judge's and general magistrate's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

### C. Visitations

Any in-person supervised visitation previously court-ordered to be held at the Children's Justice Center (CJC) is suspended until further order of the chief judge. The general magistrate who recommended or the presiding judge who ordered the supervised visitation may determine any appropriate make-up visitation at a later date or consider whether or not telephonic calls could be utilized instead of CJC visits. Eckerd Connects, its affiliate case management organizations, and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office are authorized to conduct by electronic means, rather than in-person, all previously ordered visitation between a child and that child's parent, legal guardian, or sibling. Case managers and child protective investigators must take all action to ensure that visitation is neither denied nor curtailed and that current photographs or videos of children are provided to parents whenever and however possible. The general magistrate who recommended or the presiding judge who ordered the visitation may determine any appropriate make-up visitation at a later date.

### **9. Judicial Waiver of Parental Notification**

All petitions seeking a judicial waiver of the notice requirements of section 390.01114, Florida Statutes, will be reviewed and heard by the assigned judge according to the procedures established in Administrative Order S-2011-046 (*Parental Notice of Abortion Act Cases*). To the extent that the necessary hearing can be adequately conducted by the presiding judge either through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing, these remote appearance services should be used. If the presiding judge determines that the hearing must be conducted via an in-person court appearance, then the presiding judge may conduct the in-person hearing in a courtroom as long as *all* participants (petitioners, attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, court interpreters, and judge) are physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times.

### **10. Probate, Guardianship and Mental Health Cases**

#### A. Essential Court Petitions

The following probate, guardianship and mental health petitions are considered essential: (i) emergency temporary guardianship; (ii) emergency medical authorizations; (iii) temporary injunctions for protection against exploitation of a vulnerable adult (§825.1035, Fla. Stat.); (iv) risk protection orders; (v) Baker Act; (vi) Marchman Act; (vii) Adult Protective Services; and

(viii) any other petition or motion of an emergency nature. To the extent any essential probate, guardianship or mental health petition requires a hearing and the hearing can be adequately conducted through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing, these remote appearance services should be used. If the presiding judge determines that a hearing must be conducted via an in-person court appearance, then the presiding judge may conduct the in-person hearing in a courtroom as long as *all* participants (litigants, attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, court interpreters, and judge) are physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times.

**B. Other Probate, Guardianship and Mental Health Proceedings**

Except for the essential probate, guardianship and mental health petitions enumerated above, all other probate, guardianship or mental health proceedings may be conducted by (i) teleconferencing; (ii) audiovisual conferencing; (iii) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (iv) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges and general magistrates of the Probate, Guardianship, Mental Health and Trust Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting these non-essential proceedings. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's and general magistrate's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

**11. Juvenile Delinquency**

**A. Essential Court Proceedings**

The following delinquency proceedings are considered essential: (i) daily detention hearings and (ii) any other petition or motion of an emergency nature. All hearings on essential delinquency proceedings will be conducted through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing services.

**B. Other Delinquency Proceedings**

Except for essential delinquency proceedings enumerated above and except for adjudicatory and disposition hearings, all other delinquency proceedings may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges of the Juvenile Delinquency Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting non-essential delinquency proceedings. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

## **12. County Criminal**

### **A. Essential Court Proceedings**

The following county criminal proceedings are considered essential: (i) daily first appearance hearings; (ii) motions to set or modify monetary bail for incarcerated individuals; (iii) out-of-state fugitive warrants; (iv) arraignments for incarcerated defendants; (v) negotiated pleas for incarcerated defendants that will result in the release of the defendant from the Hillsborough County jail facilities; and (vi) any other petition or motion of an emergency nature. The majority of these essential county criminal proceedings will be conducted in Video Courtroom 17. To the extent any motions to set or modify monetary bail for incarcerated individuals requires a hearing outside of Video Courtroom 17, the hearing should be conducted by the assigned judge through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing services. A hearing is not required if both parties can communicate beforehand and agree to the submission of written motions and written responses without oral argument. The court will thereafter enter a written order.

### **B. Defendants Arrested on Warrants or Capiases from Another Florida Jurisdiction**

The Florida Supreme Court has established a protocol for dealing with defendants who are arrested on a warrant or a capias issued from another Florida jurisdiction<sup>11</sup> and has appointed three Thirteenth Judicial Circuit court judges as judges of all other counties for the limited purpose of handling necessary matters relating to cases of criminal defendants being held indefinitely outside of the jurisdiction in which the defendant's case is pending.<sup>12</sup> These cases will be handled in accordance with the protocol established by the Florida Supreme Court in Video Courtroom 17.

### **C. Other County Criminal Proceedings**

Except for the county criminal proceedings enumerated above and except for jury trials, all other county criminal proceedings may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges of the County Criminal Division will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting non-essential county criminal proceedings. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

## **13. Circuit Criminal**

### **A. Essential Court Proceedings**

The following circuit criminal proceedings are considered essential: (i) first



appearance hearings; (ii) motions to set or modify monetary bail for incarcerated individuals; (iii) out-of-state fugitive warrants; (iv) technical violation of probation hearings; (v) negotiated pleas for incarcerated defendants; and (vi) any other petition or motion of an emergency nature. The majority of these essential circuit criminal proceedings will be conducted in Video Courtroom 17 according to the schedule coordinated by the administrative judge during the COVID-19 mitigation efforts. To the extent any motions to set or modify monetary bail for incarcerated individuals requires a hearing outside of Video Courtroom 17, the hearing should be conducted by the assigned judge through teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing services. A hearing is not required if both parties can communicate beforehand and agree to the submission of written motions and written responses without oral argument. The court will thereafter enter a written order.

**B. Defendants Arrested on Warrants or Capiases from Another Florida Jurisdiction**

The Florida Supreme Court has established a protocol for dealing with defendants who are arrested on a warrant or a capias issued from another Florida jurisdiction<sup>13</sup> and appointed three Thirteenth Judicial Circuit court judges as judges of all other circuits and counties for the limited purpose of handling necessary matters relating to cases of criminal defendants being held indefinitely outside of the jurisdiction in which the defendant's case is pending.<sup>14</sup> These cases will be handled in accordance with the protocol established by the Florida Supreme Court in Video Courtroom 17.

**C. Other Circuit Criminal Proceedings**

Except for the circuit criminal proceedings enumerated above and except for jury trials, all other circuit criminal proceedings may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The presiding judges of the Circuit Criminal Division will determine individually the extent and specific method of conducting non-essential circuit criminal proceedings. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

**14. Problem-Solving Courts**

Proceedings in problem-solving court divisions may be conducted by (a) teleconferencing; (b) audiovisual conferencing; (c) submission of written motions and written responses with legal analysis; or (d) a combination of these methods. The respective presiding judges of the problem-solving court divisions will determine individually the extent and specific method(s) of conducting court

proceedings. The method(s) should be posted on the individual judge's webpage or memorialized in an order filed and served in an individual case.

**15. No Transportation of Criminal Defendants**

No detainee or inmate will be transported to the courthouse facilities for any purpose and no defendant will be transported to the courthouse facilities from a treatment provider.

**16. Discovery**

Nothing in this administrative order is intended to have any effect on parties or their counsel conducting discovery, including depositions. To the extent any depositions are conducted during the COVID-19 mitigation efforts, all participants should maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times.

**17. Court-Ordered Mediation**

Nothing in this administrative order prohibits a mediation session from being conducted as long as all participants are physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times or the mediation session is conducted by teleconferencing or audiovisual conferencing.

**18. Certified Process Servers**

Nothing in this administrative order prohibits a certified process server from attempting to serve initial non-enforceable civil process as long as the process server is physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from the person being served.

**19. Process Issued by the Sheriff**

The Sheriff of Hillsborough County is authorized to stay execution of the following orders until further order of the chief judge:

- Writs of possession;<sup>15</sup>
- Levies;
- Replevins;
- Five-day evictions;
- Writs of garnishments;
- Regular summonses;
- Legal documents;
- Mental health documents (notices of hearings and summonses / subpoenas);

- Criminal papers (juvenile criminal summonses that are served on the juvenile and the juvenile's parent for a crime and for criminal traffic cases, and out-of-county summonses for the same);
- Paid papers (divorce papers, notices of hearings / motions);
- Department of Revenue paperwork;
- Out-of-state orders;
- In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; and
- Felony subpoenas from the State Attorney's Office, except any relating to essential court proceedings.

**20. Social Distancing**

All persons who find themselves in a courthouse facility should maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from each other at all times. If an in-person court proceeding has been approved by the chief judge or a provision in this administrative order authorizes the presiding judge to determine that a particular proceeding should be conducted via an in-person court appearance, the presiding judge must ensure that all participants in the proceeding (parties, attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, court interpreters, and judge) maintain the appropriate social distance. People who show no signs of being sick can be contagious and unknowingly transmit the COVID-19 virus. Close personal interaction is thought to be the method of transmission in nearly all cases and transmission of the virus does not require actual physical contact.


**21. Previous Administrative Order Superseded**

This administrative order supersedes Administrative Order S-2020-019 (*COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts – Essential and Critical Court Proceedings*).

**22. Effective Date**

This administrative order is effective immediately and remains in effect until further order of the chief judge.

ENTERED in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida on April 15, 2020 at 9:04 a.m.

  
 Ronald N. Ficarrotta, Chief Judge

Original to: Pat Frank, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Copy to: All Judges  
All General Magistrates and Hearing Officers  
Gina Justice, Trial Court Administrator  
Andrew H. Warren, State Attorney  
Julianne Holt, Public Defender  
Chad Chronister, Sheriff  
Brian Dugan, Chief, Tampa Police Department  
Edward E. Duncan, Chief, Plant City Police Department  
Kenneth R. Albano, Chief, Temple Terrace Police Department  
Charlie Vazquez, Chief, TIA Police Department  
Christopher Daniel, Chief, USF Police Department  
Doug Bakke, COO, Court Operations, Clerk's Office  
Hillsborough County Bar Association  
Lesley Miller, Jr., Chair, Board of County Commissioners  
Christine Beck, Hillsborough County Attorney  
Mike Merrill, Hillsborough County Administrator  
Ita M. Neymotin, Regional Counsel, Second District  
Patrick Barrentine, Department of Corrections  
Tabitha Lambert, Guardian ad Litem Program  
Chris Card, Executive Director, Eckerd Connects  
Stephanie Bergen, OAG, Children's Legal Services  
Jonathan Jenkins, Regional Counsel's Office  
Beth Pasek, Community Development Coordinator, DCF  
Jennifer Hock, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office  
Department of Juvenile Justice  
ACTS Juvenile Assessment Center

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<sup>1</sup> AOSC20-16 (*COVID-19 Emergency Procedures for Administering of Oaths via Remote Audio-Video Communication Equipment*); AOSC20-17 (*COVID-19 Emergency Measures in the Florida State Courts*); AOSC20-18 (*COVID-19 Emergency Procedures in Relation to Visitation for Children under Protective Supervision of Department of Children and Families*); AOSC20-19 (*COVID-19 Emergency Procedures for Speedy Trial in Noncriminal Traffic Infraction Court Proceedings*); AOSC20-20 (*Emergency Procedures in Relation to Spoken Language Court Interpreter Regulations*); AOSC20-21 (*Extension of Continuing Judicial Education Reporting Deadlines*); AOSC20-22 (*Extension of Judicial Electronic Filing Reporting Deadline*); AOSC20-23 (*Comprehensive COVID-19 Emergency Measures for the Florida State Courts*); and Florida Supreme Court

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Assignment Order 2020-92 (*Administration of Cases in which Defendant is Arrested on Warrant or Capias from Another Florida Jurisdiction*).

<sup>2</sup> Gubernatorial Exec. Order No. 2020-69 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Local Government Public Meetings*); Exec. Order No. 2020-70 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Broward and Palm Beach County Closures*); Exec. Order No. 2020-71 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Alcohol Sales, Restaurants, and Gyms*); Exec. Order 2020-72 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Non-essential Elective Medical Procedures*); Exec. Order 2020-80 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Airport Screening and Isolation*); Exec. Order 2020-82 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Isolation of Individuals Traveling to Florida*); Exec. Order 2020-83 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Protective Measures for Vulnerable Populations, Gatherings of Private Citizens and Density of the Workforce*); Exec. Order 2020-85 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Telehealth and Immunizations for State Group Insurance*); Exec. Order 2020-86 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Additional Requirements of Certain Individuals Traveling to Florida*); Exec. Order 2020-87 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Vacation Rental Closures*); Exec. Order 2020-88 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Re-Employment of Essential Personnel*); Exec. Order 2020-89 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Miami-Dade County, Broward County, Palm Beach County, Monroe County Public Access Restrictions*); Exec. Order 2020-90 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Broward and Palm Beach County Closures*); Exec. Order 2020-91 (*Essential Services and Activities During COVID-19 Emergency*); Exec. Order 2020-92 (*Amending Exec. Order 2020-91 re: Essential Services and Activities During COVID-19 Emergency*); Exec. Order 2020-93 (*COVID-19 Emergency Order – Reemployment Assistance Program*); Exec. Order 2020-94 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Mortgage Foreclosure and Eviction Relief*); Exec. Order 2020-95 (*COVID-19 Emergency Order – Documentary Stamps for SBA Loans*); and Exec. Order 2020-103 (*Emergency Management – COVID-19 – Extending Executive Order 20-87 on Vacation Rental Closures*).

<sup>3</sup> Presidential Exec. Order 13909 (*Prioritizing and Allocating Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19*); Exec. Order 13910 (*Preventing Hoarding of Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19*); Exec. Order 13911 (*Delegating Additional Authority Under the Defense Production Act with Respect to Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19*); and Exec. Order 13912 (*National Emergency Authority to Order the Selected Reserve and Certain Members of the Individual*

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*Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty*).

<sup>4</sup> Teleconferencing services include CourtCall™ ([www.courtcall.com](http://www.courtcall.com)), WebEx™ ([www.webex.com](http://www.webex.com)), Zoom™ ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)), and the presiding judge's hearing room telephone line.

<sup>5</sup> Audiovisual conferencing services include Cisco® Meeting Server – CMS ([www.cisco.com/go/meetingserver](http://www.cisco.com/go/meetingserver)) and Zoom™ ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)). Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge, proper courtroom attire should be worn at all audiovisual conference hearings.

<sup>6</sup> No rule or law requires a trial court to hear oral argument on a pretrial, non-evidentiary motion. See *Nudel v. Flagstar Bank*, 52 So. 3d 692, 694 n.3 (Fla. 4th DCA 2010) but see *McElroy v. Oaks on the Bay, LLC*, 288 So. 3d 1259 (Fla. 2d DCA 2020) (finding that it is a denial of due process to enter summary judgment without conducting a hearing unless the hearing is waived).

<sup>7</sup> Executive Order 20-94 issued by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis expires on May 17, 2020, unless extended.

<sup>8</sup> No rule or law requires a trial court to hear oral argument on a pretrial, non-evidentiary motion. See *Nudel v. Flagstar Bank*, 52 So. 3d 692, 694 n.3 (Fla. 4th DCA 2010) but see *McElroy v. Oaks on the Bay, LLC*, 288 So. 3d 1259 (Fla. 2d DCA 2020) (finding that it is a denial of due process to enter summary judgment without conducting a hearing unless the hearing is waived).

<sup>9</sup> Executive Order 20-94, *supra*, endnote 7.

<sup>10</sup> Section 3.jj., Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group's Safer-At-Home order issued on March 27, 2020.

<sup>11</sup> Section V of Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC 20-23 (April 6, 2020).

<sup>12</sup> Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-92 (March 26, 2020) appointed Circuit Judges Ronald Ficarrota, Catherine Catlin, and Samantha Ward as temporary judges of the other Florida counties and circuits for this purpose.

<sup>13</sup> Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC 20-23, *supra*, endnote 11.

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<sup>14</sup> Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-92, *supra*, endnote 12.

<sup>15</sup> Section VII of Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-23 (April 6, 2020) suspends the requirement in Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.580(a) for the clerk to issue a writ of possession “forthwith.”