

**IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-23

**IN RE: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT
FORECLOSURE SALES AND EXECUTION OF POSSESSORY WRITS
FOR NON-PAYMENT IN DUVAL COUNTY DUE TO THE
CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis of the State of Florida declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus in our State;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Supreme Court of Florida entered Administrative Order No. AOSC20-13 regarding COVID-19 Emergency Procedures in the Florida State Courts, which ordered the temporary suspension of various non-emergency court proceedings;

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Supreme Court of Florida entered Administrative Order No. AOSC20-17 regarding COVID-19 Emergency Procedures in the Florida State Courts, which continued the emergency suspension of various non-emergency court proceedings;

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Supreme Court of Florida entered Administrative Order No. AOSC20-23 regarding Comprehensive COVID-19 Emergency Measures for the Florida State Courts that extended "previously enacted temporary remedial measures...until the close of business on May 29, 2020";

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, Governor DeSantis entered Executive Order Number 20-94 which "suspend[ed] and toll[ed] any statute providing for a mortgage foreclosure cause of action under Florida law" and "suspend[ed] and toll[ed] any statute providing for an eviction cause of action under Florida law solely as it relates to non-payment of rent by residential tenants";

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2020, Governor DeSantis entered Executive Order Number 20-121 which extended Executive Order 20-94 through June 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, Governor DeSantis entered Executive Order Number 20-137 which extended the provisions of Executive Order Number 20-94 through June 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Governor DeSantis entered Executive Order Number 20-159 which extended Executive Order Number 20-94 through July 31, 2020;

WHEREAS, in order to follow the instructions from Governor DeSantis and the Supreme Court of Florida, and to respond appropriately to the current public health emergency, this Court previously suspended all foreclosure sales by Circuit Courts and County Courts in Duval County and stayed the execution on all writs of possession or writs of eviction through April 3, 2020, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2020-07, thereafter through April 30, 2020, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2020-10, thereafter through May 29, 2020 pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2020-14, and thereafter through June 30, 2020, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2020-19;

WHEREAS, in order to continue to respond appropriately to the current public health emergency, effective now and through and including July 31, 2020, this Court is suspending all foreclosure sales ordered by Circuit Courts and County Courts in Duval County and is staying the execution of certain writs of possession as specified below;

NOW THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit and pursuant to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, it is

ORDERED that:

1. All foreclosure sales ordered by Circuit Courts and County Courts in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, in and for Duval County, to be conducted from March 19, 2020, through July 31, 2020, are canceled and shall be reset upon proper motion and order.
2. In Duval County, execution on any writ of possession for failure to pay rent by residential tenants issued by authority of these same Circuit Courts and County Courts is stayed for the period from March 19, 2020, through July 31, 2020. Execution is also stayed for the period March 19, 2020, through July 31, 2020, on any writ of possession issued in a mortgage foreclosure action, except upon specific order by the presiding judge based upon exceptional circumstances and good cause shown. All other possessory writs shall be executed as ordered, including without limitation, those following the expiration of a lease term, evictions for cause, or eviction for unlawful detainer.
3. Fourth Judicial Circuit Court and Duval County Court procedures in Duval County as to the scheduling of foreclosure sales and possessory writs shall be subject to change depending upon the development of the current public health emergency.

4. This Administrative Order shall be recorded by the Clerk of the Court, in the Official Records of Duval County, in the State of Florida, shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in full force and effect until further order of this Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, this 12th day of July, 2020.


MARK H. MAHON
CHIEF JUDGE

- cc: All Judges in the Fourth Judicial Circuit
- All Magistrates in the Fourth Judicial Circuit
- The Honorable Ronnie Fussell, Clerk of Courts, Duval County
- The Honorable Charles G. Cofer, Esq, Public Defender
- The Honorable Melissa W. Nelson, Esq., State Attorney
- The Honorable Jason R. Gabriel, Esq., General Counsel
- The Honorable Mike Williams, Sheriff, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
- Major Claude Colvin, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Courthouse Security
- Joseph G. Stelma, Fourth Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator
- Eve Janocko, Chief Deputy Trial Court Administrator
- Mike Smith, Court Technology Officer
- Julie K. Taylor, Court Counsel
- Stephen Siegel, Esq., Office of the State Attorney
- Janet Abel, Circuit Director, Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel
- Fourth Circuit Court Law Library, Duval County
- Judicial Staff Attorneys, Fourth Judicial Circuit
- The Jacksonville Bar Association
- Nassau County Bar Association
- Clay County Bar Association

STATE OF FLORIDA
DUVAL COUNTY

I, THE UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit Court, Duval County, Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as it appears on record and file in the office of the Clerk of Circuit of Duval County, Florida, and the same is in full force and effect.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Clerk of Circuit Court at Jacksonville, Florida, this the 12th day of July, A.D., 2020

RONNIE FUSSELL
Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
Duval County, Florida

By 
Deputy Clerk

