

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO: 2020-26

**IN RE: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF REQUIREMENTS OF THIRD
AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 86-14**

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis of the State of Florida declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of COVID-19 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, the Supreme Court of Florida entered five amendments to Administrative Order No. AOSC20-23 which extended those “temporary remedial measures” and required certain benchmarks to be met before courthouses throughout the State can proceed through four distinct phases of reopening that will return daily operations to normal;

WHEREAS, at this time the Fourth Judicial Circuit is currently in Phase Two and does not anticipate entering Phase Four, the last phase of reopening, for some time due to the developing nature of COVID-19 and the appropriate responses that must take place throughout the State to prevent the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Third Amended Administrative Order No. 86-14 which was entered on July 17, 1997, delineates individuals who “shall not be eligible for a Notice to Appear or Summons”;

WHEREAS, this Court has been informed that during the current COVID-19 emergency, the number of individuals being held at the John E. Goode Duval County Pre-Trial Detention Facility has increased;

WHEREAS, in order to assist the Duval County Pre-Trial Detention Facility during this emergency, this Court previously entered Administrative Order No. 2020-24 on July 1, 2020, wherein the Court found that suspending the requirements found in sections (A)3. and (A)4. in Third Amended Administrative Order No. 86-14 was appropriate;

WHEREAS, in order to continue to assist the Duval County Pre-Trial Detention Facility during the current public health emergency, this Court finds that continuing to suspend the requirements found in sections (A)3. and (A)4. in Third Amended Administrative Order No. 86-14 is appropriate for a temporary and definite period of time;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred upon me as the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit and pursuant to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, it is hereby

ORDERED that:

1. The requirements found in sections (A)3. and (A)4. in Third Amended Administrative Order No. 86-14 are hereby suspended as of the date of this order.
2. This Administrative Order shall only remain in effect until midnight on August 31, 2020;
3. This Administrative Order shall be recorded by the Clerk of Court, in the Official Records of Duval County, in the State of Florida, and shall take effect immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, this the
31st 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
Matt Lufrano, Esq., President, FACDL (Local Chapter)
Fourth Circuit Court Law Library, Duval County
Judicial Staff Attorneys, Fourth Judicial Circuit
The Jacksonville Bar Association