

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: A-2020-20-B

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING
SUSPENSION OF EXECUTION OF OUTSTANDING INMATE
TRANSFER ORDERS**

(Extending Order until Further Order of the Court)

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, the Chief Judge of each judicial circuit is charged with the authority and the power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice, and;

WHEREAS, Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states the Chief Judge "shall, considering available resources, ensure the efficient and proper administration of all courts within this circuit," and;

WHEREAS, Rule 4.11 of the Florida Court Employee Policy Manual allows the Chief Judge to authorize administrative leave for any court employee affected by a court closure related to a hazardous condition, and;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and the Florida Department of Health advise precautions due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak specifically noting that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure to the virus by social distancing, and;

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, and;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Chief Justice Charles Canady issued Administrative Order No. AOSC20-12, *In Re: Response of the Florida State Courts System to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)*, requiring Chief Judges to continue ongoing planning and authorizing the use of mitigating measures to address the effects of COVID-19, and;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Chief Judge Daniel B. Merritt, Jr. issued Administrative Order No. A-2020-12, *Administrative Order Regarding Court*

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Closure Due to COVID-19 Pandemic," that closed all non-essential Courts through Friday, March 27, 2020, and;

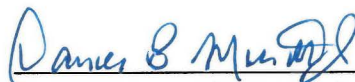
WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 Chief Justice Charles A. Canady issued Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-15 *In Re: COVID-19 Essential and Critical Trial Court Proceedings* wherein the Court identified specific essential court proceedings.

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 the undersigned issued Administrative Order A-2020-12-C *Amended Administrative Order Regarding Court Closure Due to Covid-19 Pandemic.*

IT IS THEREFORE,

ORDERED and **ADJUDGED** that execution of any outstanding inmate transfer order is suspended until further order of this court.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers at Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida this 16th of April, 2020.



The Honorable Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.
Chief Judge
Fifth Judicial Circuit