

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A-2020- 23

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUSPENDING EXECUTION OF
WRITS OF BODILY ATTACHMENT IN DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE CHILD SUPPORT
ENFORCEMENT CASES UNLESS SECONDARY TO A CRIMINAL ARREST

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) a pandemic, the Governor of Florida has declared a state of emergency exists, and the Surgeon General and State Health Officer have declared a public health emergency exists, and the Florida State Courts must take steps to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 on legal proceedings and participants in those legal proceedings; and

WHEREAS, since March 17, 2020, the Florida Supreme Court has issued various Emergency Administrative Orders, which may be found at www.floridasupremecourt.org/Emergency, which include ordering the cancellation or postponement of all non-essential in-person hearings; and

WHEREAS, the Court must fulfill its responsibility to protect the health and well-being of the public

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

I. APPLICATION AND TERM OF THIS ORDER.

A With the exception provided in paragraph B. below, the execution of Writs of Bodily Attachment in Department of Revenue, Child Support cases (hereinafter "Writ"), is **SUSPENDED** throughout the Fifth Judicial Circuit.

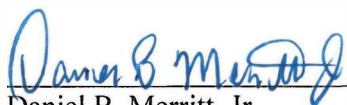
B. Unless the person who is the subject of a Writ has been arrested on unrelated charges, law enforcement agencies within the Circuit shall suspend and not make arrests pursuant to any Writ until such time as the Florida Supreme Court lifts the restrictions currently in effect and the courts resume normal business operations.

If a person is arrested on charges unrelated to a Writ and, secondary to the criminal arrest, a Writ is discovered, the Writ shall be executed.

D. Burch

C. Any writ not executed in accordance with Paragraph B herein, remains active and valid and may be executed on or after such time as the Florida Supreme Court lifts the restrictions currently in effect and the courts resume normal business operations.

DONE and ORDERED in chambers in Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida and Ocala, Marion County, Florida, respectively, this 20th day of April, 2020.



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



Ann Melinda Craggs
Family Law Administrative Judge
Fifth Judicial Circuit