

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: C-2020-19-D

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING BODY
TEMPERATURE SCREENING BEFORE ALLOWING ACCESS TO THE
CITRUS COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

(Amended to extend the 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, pursuant to Florida Rules of Judicial Administration Rules 2.215 (b)(7) “[t]he chief judge shall regulate the use of all court facilities, 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 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, and;

WHEREAS, based on the declaration of a state of emergency there is now a growing concern for the health and safety of Court staff, Court visitors, and the residents of Citrus County and of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and;

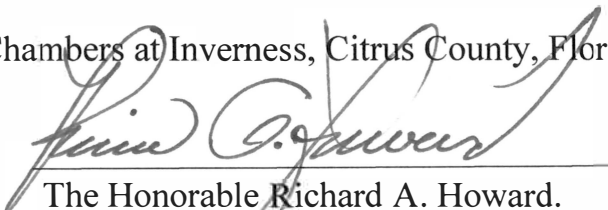
WHEREAS, the least intrusive way to ensure public safety is to screen individuals who wish to enter the Citrus County Courthouse for illness by determining the individuals body temperature.

IT IS THEREFORE,

ORDERED and **ADJUDGED** as follows:

1. All in persons entering the Citrus County Courthouse located at 110 N. Apopka Ave., Inverness, FL 34450 (excluding those authorized to enter through the Judge's entrance) shall be screened and have a body temperature taken and reviewed before access is allowed. Any person with a body temperature equal to or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be denied access.
2. Citrus County Fire Services will conduct the body temperature screenings on a temporary basis. The screenings shall be conducted in the least intrusive manner possible. The temporary basis will begin on Thursday, March 26, 2020 and continue until walkthrough body temperature scanners are installed at the Citrus County Courthouse public entrance. Once the walkthrough body temperature scanners are installed Court bailiffs will be responsible for conducting all screenings.
3. The measures detailed in this Administrative Order shall remain in effect until further order of this Court.
4. Additional orders extending or modifying these measures will be issued as warranted by changing circumstances during the public health emergency.

16 **DONE** and **ORDERED** in Chambers at Inverness, Citrus County, Florida this day of April, 2020.


The Honorable Richard A. Howard.
Administrative Judge
Citrus County