

AMENDMENT: 9

(Amends Operational Plan to Reinstate Jury Trials and Grand Jury Proceedings in Lake and Marion Counties and Suspends Jury Trials and Grand Jury Proceedings in Citrus County and Continues Suspension of Jury Trials and Grand Jury Proceedings in Sumter County Until Further Notice)

**FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
COVID-19 Public Health and Safety Operational Plan: Phase 2**

This operational plan amendment is provided pursuant to Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32, as amended. Due to current benchmark conditions in **Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion and Sumter Counties** amendment to Operational Plan is appropriate.

WHEREAS, Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32 *Amendment 6* requires public health data and local conditions shall be monitored at least weekly to determine if a modification to operations, an amendment to the operational plan, or a reversion in phases is necessary.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above referenced Administrative Order, reversion or amendment is required when the seven-day averages for new cases during the most recent two-week period demonstrate two consecutive weeks of increase; or either of the seven-day averages for the positivity rate during the most recent two-week period is eleven (11) percent or higher.

WHEREAS, the positivity rates for Citrus and Hernando counties, in the Fifth Judicial Circuit, for the most recent two week period are below eleven percent and all other benchmark criteria are met;

THEREFORE, in compliance with Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32 *Amendment 6*, this Operational plan is amended as follows:

AS TO LAKE and MARION COUNTIES

1. Full Phase 2 operations are restored in Lake and Marion Counties.
2. Based on the forgoing data, jury trials and Grand Jury proceedings **ARE REINSTATED** for Lake and Marion Counties.

JB MJK

AS TO CITRUS COUNTY

1. Daily review and monitoring of public health data and local conditions will now occur instead of weekly review.
2. Based on the forgoing data, jury trials and Grand Jury proceedings are suspended in the Citrus County until further notice.

AS TO HERNANDO COUNTY:

1. Based on the forgoing data, this Amendment makes no changes to the status of Hernando County as outlined in Amendment 8 to the Phase 2 Operational Plan.
2. Jury Trials and Grand Jury Proceedings may continue in Hernando County.

AS TO SUMTER COUNTY

3. Based on the forgoing data, this Amendment makes no changes to the restrictions placed on Sumter County as outlined in Amendment 8 to the Phase 2 Operational Plan.
4. Therefore, jury trials and Grand Jury proceedings remain suspended in Sumter County until further notice.

Done in Chambers in Brooksville, Hernando County Florida this 10th day of February 2021.



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