20210001821 RECORDED IN PUBLIC RECORDS LEON COUNTY FL BK: 5534 PG: 918, 01/08/2021 at 02:15 PM, GWEN MARSHALL, CLERK OF COURTS

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-13
SEVENTH AMENDMENT

IN RE: OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

WHEREAS, Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32, Amendment 6, provides standards for transition to and from various phases and procedures and data sources to support decisions concerning in-person court proceedings under benchmark criteria 3; and

WHEREAS, public health data for Gadsden County and Leon County applied to benchmark criteria 3 indicate daily case averages of over twenty new cases a day and two consecutive weeks of increase for the seven-day average of new cases, requiring reversion to Phase 1 or amendment to the operational plan for Gadsden and Leon Counties as per the requirements in Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32, Amendment 6; and

WHEREAS, circuit-wide public health data for all six counties of the 2d Circuit indicate a seven-day average COVID positivity rate exceeding 10% for the most recent reporting period, and a general four-week trend of positivity rate increases between 79% and 349% dependent upon the county; and

By the authority of Rule 2.215, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-23, Amendment 8, and Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32, Amendment 6, it is therefore **ORDERED** that the operational plan of the 2d Circuit is amended as follows:

The 2d Circuit's **OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR TRANSITION TO PHASE 2** is renamed the **OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE** for this and subsequent amendments.

The 2d Circuit's operational plan shall be amended to cancel circuit-wide all in-person jury trials scheduled in January, 2021. Jury trials are the relative highest risk events of the limited in-person court proceedings being conducted in the 2d Circuit.

The 2d Circuit's operational plan shall be amended to cancel Gadsden County, Leon County, and Wakulla County in-person non-jury trials scheduled for January, 2021. Non-jury trials can be moderate-risk events of the limited in-person court proceedings being conducted in the 2d Circuit.

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Jury trials and non-jury trials may be authorized to resume effective February, 2021, dependent upon public health data, consultation with justice system partners, and after final approval by the presiding judges and chief judge.

The few remaining impending in-person court proceedings throughout the 2d Circuit have been carefully reviewed and are determined at this time to be relatively low-risk due to the comprehensive health and safety measures being followed by the court and justice system partners.

Provisions of Paragraph 5 inconsistent with the administrative order are suspended until February 1, 2021.

DONE and ORDERED in chambers in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida, this 6th day of January, 2021.

JONATHAN SJOSTROM
Chief Judge

Copies furnished to:
All Circuit and County Judges, 2d Circuit
State Attorney, 2d Circuit
Public Defender, 2d Circuit
All Clerks of the Circuit Court, 2d Circuit
All Sheriffs, 2d Circuit
Office of Court Administration, 2d Circuit

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