

**IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF  
FLORIDA**

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-13  
SECOND AMENDMENT**

**IN RE: OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR TRANSITION TO PHASE 2**

**WHEREAS**, Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order AOSC20-32, Amendment 3, revises standards for transition to various phases and procedures and data sources to support decisions under benchmark criteria 3; and

**WHEREAS**, controlled and measured in-person attendance at court proceedings are currently being conducted or planned in counties of the 2d Circuit in Phase 2; and

**WHEREAS**, some COVID-19 indicators necessitate amending the operational plan for Leon County to remain in Phase 2; and

**WHEREAS**, a consensus between criminal justice system partners was reached to satisfy the elements of this amended operational plan for Leon County as required by Benchmark Criteria 5;

By the authority of Rule 2.215, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, AOSC20-23, Amendment 6, and AOSC20-32, Amendment 3, it is therefore **ORDERED** that the operational plan of the 2d Circuit is amended.

Paragraph 5.c.(1), pertaining to Leon County, is created:

In-person attendance for pleas by out-of-custody defendants will be by hybrid in-person attendance and Zoom, with the bailiff, deputy clerk, defendant, and defense counsel at the Charles A. Francis County Court Annex and the judge, assistant state attorney, and digital court reporter at the Leon County Courthouse. Any change of

pleas that may be conducted wholly remotely shall be conducted remotely.

Paragraph 5.c.(2), is created:

An additional screening question will be asked of each defendant and defense counsel prior to being admitted to the Charles A. Francis County Court Annex (see Paragraph 6.d.(5) below).

Paragraph 5.c.(3), is created:

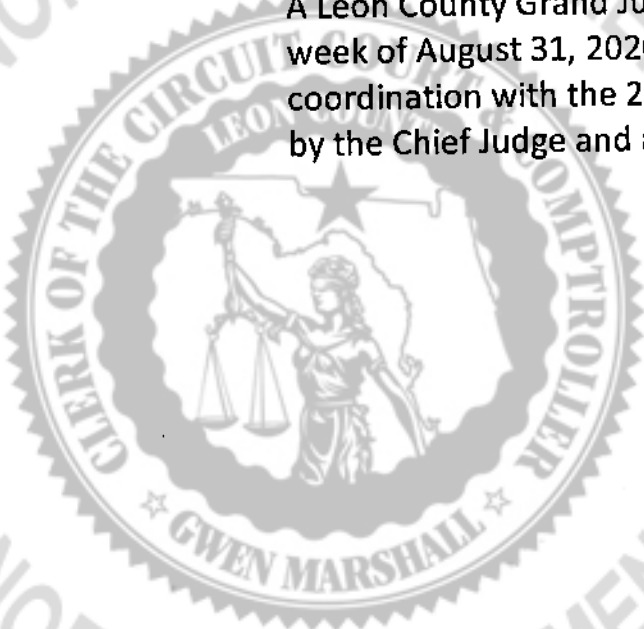
Cases per docket will be reduced by 30%, from ten to seven cases, and increase intervals between cases from 15 minutes to 20 minutes, to create more social distancing outside the courtroom and allow for more time to clean the courtroom between cases.

Paragraph 5.c.(4), is created:

Day porters will clean appropriate areas in the Charles A. Francis County Court Annex courtroom used for out-of-custody pleas between every case heard. Plexiglass and physical barriers have been placed in the courtroom to further protect staff.

Paragraph 5.e. is amended as follows:

A Leon County Grand Jury has successfully been selected and met the week of August 31, 2020. The Grand Jury may continue to meet in coordination with the 2d Circuit State Attorney, subject to approval by the Chief Judge and amendments to the operational plan.



Paragraph 6.d.(5) is created:

Question 5: Within the last week, have you attended any gatherings with people other than immediate family and household members? If so, did you wear a mask and maintain social distance?

8<sup>2</sup> **DONE and ORDERED** in chambers in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida, this day of September, 2020.



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**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

