Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC20-51

IN RE: WORKGROUP ON THE CONTINUITY OF COURT OPERATIONS AND PROCEEDINGS DURING AND AFTER COVID-19

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Workgroup on the Continuity of Court Operations and Proceedings During and After COVID-19 was established on April 21, 2020,[1] for the purpose of developing findings and recommendations on the continuation of all court operations and proceedings statewide in a manner that protects health and safety and that addresses each of the following phases of the pandemic: a) in-person contact is inadvisable, court facilities are effectively closed to the public, and in-person proceedings are rare; b) limited in-person contact is authorized for certain purposes and/or requires use of protective measures; c) in-person contact is more broadly authorized and protective measures are relaxed; and d) COVID-19 no longer presents a significant risk to public health and safety.

1. See *In re: Workgroup on the Continuity of Court Operations and Proceedings During and After COVID-19,* Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC20-28 (April 21, 2020).

The Workgroup is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2020. During the past two months, the Workgroup has made meaningful and significant contributions to the judicial branch's response to the pandemic. In order to allow the Workgroup to complete its pending business, I hereby extend the term of the Workgroup through December 31, 2020, for the following purposes:

1. Identify issues that should be addressed in the State Courts System's pandemic guidance material and other emergency operation documents and protocols to strengthen governance and preparedness for future events.

2. If necessary, propose rule changes to implement the recommendations submitted by the Workgroup in response to the charges established in Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC20-28. Should the Workgroup recommend amendments to the rules of court procedure, it shall file such recommendations in petition form with the Clerk of the Florida Supreme Court. Additionally, the Workgroup is authorized to respond to any comments that may be filed in those rule amendment cases.

3. If necessary, propose statutory changes to implement the recommendations submitted by the Workgroup in response to the charges established in Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC20-28. Should

the Workgroup recommend statutory changes, they should be submitted in accordance with the applicable State Courts System protocols.

4. Respond to any others matters that may be referred to the Workgroup by the Chief Justice.

The Workgroup shall continue to utilize the membership established in Fla. Admin. Orders No. AOSC20-28 and AOSC20-35.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on June 15, 2020.

AOSC20-51 6/15/2020

Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

AOSC20-51 6/15/2020

ATTEST:

AOSC20-51 6/15/2020

John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

AOSC20-51 6/15/2020