Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC20-19

IN RE: COVID-19 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR SPEEDY TRIAL IN NONCRIMINAL TRAFFIC INFRACTION COURT PROCEEDINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic continues to have a massive effect upon the operations of the State Courts System and the lives of all Floridians; and

WHEREAS the Florida state courts have taken measures to mitigate not only the effects of this public health emergency upon the judicial branch and its participants, but also the spread of the novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS many court proceedings have been delayed and substantial efforts are being made to enable judges and court personnel to conduct court business remotely or on alternate work schedules; and

WHEREAS a public health emergency currently exists in the Florida State Courts System that requires mitigation of its effects by adopting “social distancing” measures meant to reduce the increase in person-to-person transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19; and

WHEREAS it is the intent of this order to suspend the speedy trial procedure in noncriminal traffic infraction court proceedings;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the administrative authority conferred upon me by article V, section 2(b) of the Florida Constitution and Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.205(a)(2)(B)(iv) and 2.205(a)(2)(B)(v),

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. All time periods involving the speedy trial procedure in noncriminal traffic infraction court proceedings are suspended from the close of business on Friday, March 13, 2020, *nunc pro tunc*, until the close of business on Monday, April 20, 2020, or as provided by subsequent order.

2. The suspension of time limits under the speedy trial procedure restores additional days equal to the number stated herein.

3. This order is not intended to preclude conducting noncriminal traffic infraction proceedings if the chief judge of the circuit has determined that it is feasible to conduct such proceedings remotely.

4. Additional orders extending or modifying these measures will be issued as warranted by changing circumstances during the public health emergency.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on March 30, 2020.

AOSC20-19 3/30/2020

Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

AOSC20-19 3/30/2020

ATTEST:

AOSC20-19 3/30/2020

John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

AOSC20-19 3/30/2020