

The Twentieth Judicial Circuit Courthouses are open, with limitations to address to COVID-19

The Twentieth Judicial Circuit Administrative Office of the Courts continues to closely monitor COVID-19. At this time all courthouses are open. However, courtroom attendance within all courtrooms of the 20th Judicial Circuit shall be limited to attorneys, parties, and necessary witnesses. There are exceptions that may be made by the presiding judge on a case-by-case basis.

In Lee County, some Family Law court events will use electronic communication methods to conduct court business. All of the 20th Circuit's Probation and Pretrial Services Departments are utilizing telephonic reporting through March 27 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

In a statewide order issued Friday afternoon by Florida Chief Justice Charles Canady, grand jury proceedings, jury selection proceedings, and criminal and civil jury trials have been suspended for two weeks. The order takes effect Monday, March 16, 2020 and is effective until Friday, March 27, 2020. A subsequent order from the Chief Justice may further extend this timeline.

In addition, we have added supplemental deep cleaning throughout our Circuit to assist with the prevention of respiratory illnesses from spreading. This includes high traffic lobby areas, elevators, security checkpoints, and courtrooms. We have also added additional antibacterial stations. Information from the CDC has also been posted throughout our courthouses.

We are reminding employees about proper hand washing techniques, respiratory etiquette, and encourage our employees who are sick to stay home.

Contact the Clerk of Court's Office for additional juror information.