ORDER RELATED TO CRIMINAL JURY TRIALS

Effective October 1, 2020, the Court will begin holding a Status hearing on all criminal cases set for upcoming trial. The Status hearing will be scheduled the week immediately prior to the commencement of scheduled trial date. If desired, negotiated pleas will be accepted at that time. Please be advised, however, that negotiated pleas will not be accepted after said Status hearing. Resolution after status conference will consist of either a trial or open plea.

This Order follows the issuance of the Court's Order on Assignment of Trial dates per the Trial Call which is held once a month. A Notice of Hearing will be sent out to all parties.

DONE AND ORDERED in in chambers in Punta Gorda, Charlotte County, Florida on October 9, 2020.

DONALD H. MASON, Circuit Judge

Copies to:

All Attorneys, via Courthouse box State Attorney, via Courthouse box Public Defender, via Courthouse box Regional Counsel, via Courthouse box Jon Embury, Court Administration