

REVISED ORDER RELATED TO JUNE 21, 2021 TRANSITION

This revised Order follows the issuance of the Florida Supreme Courts ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. AOSC21-17, Amendment 1 *IN RE: COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY OPERATIONAL MEASURES FOR FLORIDA APPELLATE AND TRIAL COURTS*. The amended Order was issued to modify and extend previously enacted temporary health and safety protocols.

Due to local health conditions, Chief Judge McHugh has issued local AO 2.41 – First Amended requiring all Judges, court staff, members of the public, attorneys, litigants, witnesses, observers, vendors media, law enforcement and employees of all other occupants of the courthouse or court facility to wear a face mask in all public areas of the 20th Judicial Circuit courthouses to mitigate the transmission of the Delta COVID-19 variant.

Effective June 21, 2021 attorney appearances by Zoom will be permitted for the following proceedings:

- ❖ Felony Arraignment
- ❖ VOP Advisement
- ❖ Case Management Conference (CMC)
- ❖ Pre Trial Conferences (PTC)
- ❖ Early Resolution
- ❖ Hearings on miscellaneous matters (i.e. Motion to Early Term, Travel, Modify, etc...)
 - Motion to Modify No Contact Order – victim’s presence is required in the courtroom.
- ❖ Probate hearings (unless evidentiary)

If a plea is anticipated at CMC, PTC or ERC then counsel’s presence will be required in the courtroom, unless the plea will be a misdemeanor resolution. Judge Mason’s Zoom Personal ID (PM) will remain the same as previous. Parties are asked to retain said ID going forward and counsel shall contact Ms. Gibbs to obtain the PM ID if misplaced.

In person appearances (attorney and defendant) will be required for the following proceedings:

- ❖ Plea and Sentencing (including VOP pleas)
 - If the plea will be a misdemeanor resolution, counsel for the defendant may appear remotely.
- ❖ Evidentiary hearings
- ❖ Calendar Call
- ❖ Status on Trials
- ❖ Bond Hearings (in-custody defendants shall remotely appear via Polycom from the Charlotte County Jail)
- ❖ MHC (specialty court)
- ❖ Jury and Non-Jury Trials

All in-custody defendants shall appear remotely via Polycom video from the Charlotte County Jail. In-custody defendants will be transported to the justice center for evidentiary hearings, Jury Trials, Non-Jury Trials and open pleas only. If an in-custody open plea is anticipated counsel must contact Ms. Gibbs no later than 2pm the day before so arrangements can be made. If counsel has a special request for an in-custody transport, other than indicated above, the same rule will apply.

These protocols and measures shall remain in effect until vacated or superseded by a subsequent court order.

DONE AND ORDERED at Charlotte County, Florida on this APR 27 2022.



Donald H. Mason