



CIRCUIT COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

**HONORABLE JAMES H. DANIEL**  
Circuit Judge

**NASSAU COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
Robert M. Foster Justice Center

March 31, 2020

**TO:** The Honorable Mark H. Mahon, Chief Judge, Fourth Judicial Circuit  
The Honorable Steven M. Fahlgren, Circuit Court Judge  
The Honorable Wesley R. Poole, County Court Judge  
The Honorable John A. Crawford, Clerk of Court  
Capt. Paula J. DeLuca, Nassau County Jail/Courthouse  
Sgt. Ken Davis, Nassau County Courthouse Bailiff  
Nassau County Bar Association

**FROM:** The Honorable James H. Daniel, Administrative Judge

**RE:** Cancellation of Nassau County Criminal Jury Trials for April 2020

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Please find attached Administrative Order No: 2020-8.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR NASSAU COUNTY FLORIDA

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO: 2020-8**

**RE: CANCELLATION OF NASSAU COUNTY CRIMINAL JURY TRIALS FOR  
APRIL 2020**

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the COVID-19 virus (coronavirus) pandemic emergency, the Chief Judge of the Florida Supreme Court issued AOSC20-17 cancelling all jury trials, grand juries, and jury selections statewide through Friday, April 17, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Judge of the Fourth Circuit issued Fourth Circuit Administrative Order 2020-06 cancelling all civil jury trials in the circuit and county courts in the Fourth Judicial Circuit through Friday, May 1, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County currently has jury qualification scheduled on Friday, April 17, 2020, for all April 2020 criminal jury trials in both the circuit and county courts;

**WHEREAS**, the actual trials in county and circuit court criminal cases in Nassau County are scheduled for the week of April 20, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the Clerk of the Courts must issue summons by mail to prospective jurors no later than Friday, April 3, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, there is an immediate need to address the confusion and procedural complications of conducting criminal jury trials the week of April 20, 2020, when Nassau County courts are prohibited from conducting jury qualification on April 17, 2020, as a result of AOSC20-17;

**WHEREAS**, it is not procedurally possible to pass all criminal jury trials for one week beyond the April 17, 2020, moratorium because Nassau County qualifies jurors once month and schedules a single jury trial week for all criminal and civil cases each month;

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned has consulted with the Chief Judge of the Fourth Circuit concerning the cancellation of all criminal jury trials in Nassau County for the month of April 2020 and the request has been approved if cancellation is necessary;

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit has delegated authority to the Administrative Judge for Nassau County to establish temporary procedures;

**NOW THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in the undersigned, **IT IS ORDERED**:

1. All felony and misdemeanor criminal jury trials scheduled in Nassau County for April 20, 2020, are cancelled and should be rescheduled in open court to a later date to be determined by the court in consultation with attorneys and the defendants;
2. Jury qualification scheduled for Friday, April 17, 2020 is cancelled and the Clerk of the Courts is directed not to issue juror summonses for that date;
3. No felony or misdemeanor jury qualification, jury selection or jury trial in Nassau County shall commence until after Friday, May 1, 2020;

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at Yulee, Nassau County, Florida, this the 31<sup>ST</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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**JAMES H. DANIEL**