

Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Administrative Offices of the Court
COVID-19 Message about Court Operations as of 4/6/20

All courthouses within the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit are operating with limited access through May 29, 2020. To the maximum extent feasible, all court proceedings shall be accomplished with the use of technology. However, certain mission essential proceedings may occur in-person using social distancing protocols. Please see below for further clarification. Should you have any questions, please contact the presiding judge or Court Administration for more information.

Any member of the public in need of Clerk services related to **Domestic Violence, Protective Injunctions, Baker Act and/or Marchman Act** should contact the Clerk's Office in their County. Please refer to the website and phone numbers of the respective Clerk's offices as follows:

<u>Martin Clerk</u>	<u>St. Lucie Clerk</u>	<u>Indian River Clerk</u>	<u>Okeechobee Clerk</u>
772-288-5576	772-462-6900	772-770-5185	863-763-2131
Martinclerk.com	Stlucieclerk.com	Clerk.indian-river.org	Clerk.co.okeechobee.fl.us

For information about court proceedings, please contact the assigned judge for specific case instructions. Contact information for our judges can be found on the [Nineteenth Circuit Judge's page](#).

Most judges will be utilizing ZOOM videoconferencing at no charge to conduct remote proceedings. However, in very limited cases, some in-person appearances will be required for mission essential proceedings. If an in-person court proceeding is required, all parties shall maintain a 6' social distance from others. For a list of mission essential court proceedings, see [Essential Proceedings List Page](#).

All civil and family law hearings and non-jury bench trials will be conducted remotely, rescheduled or postponed by the assigned judge. Attorneys, parties and witnesses with upcoming trials or hearings should communicate with the assigned judge's office to determine the status of your hearings or other information related to remote or telephonic conferencing.

Instructions for using ZOOM are located on the [Nineteenth Circuit's Zoom page](#). When Zoom conferencing is arranged for a case, individual meeting invites will be emailed with unique secure meeting IDs to connect. The participant will be asked to click on the meeting invitation to connect.

A sample invitation is as follows:

Judge Jones is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Time: Mar 18, 2020 03:20 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
To Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/>
Meeting ID: 971 93 675
One tap mobile: +16465588656 US (New York)
Code: 971 93 675

It is not necessary to have a Zoom account to participate in a remote hearing. However, you may be prompted to download the software, once you have clicked on the meeting link. Additionally, if using smartphone, you may be prompted to download the [Mobile App](#). This is not necessary. However, you may wish to create an account. Additional information about Zoom is available at www.Zoom.US.

All of the Nineteenth Circuit's Probation and Pretrial Services Departments are utilizing remote/telephonic conferencing for reporting through May 29, 2020. Please contact the appropriate offices for more details.

ALL GRAND JURY PROCEEDINGS, JURY SELECTION PROCEEDINGS AND JURY TRIALS are suspended through May 29, 2020 and all jurors are excused through this date and should not appear.

Please continue to visit our website www.circuit19.org and social media @ <https://www.facebook.com/NineteenthJudicialCircuit/> for future updates. The Emergency Administrative Orders of the Florida Supreme Court may be found at <https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/Emergency>.