IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

STANDING ORDER RE: CRIMINAL CASE MANAGEMENT AND PRETRIAL MOTION DEADLINES

THIS CAUSE came before the Court upon the filing of the Information or Indictment, charging the Defendant with at least one felony level crime. The Court finds it is in the best interest of the administration of justice for the Court to issue this order. It is therefore **ORDERED** as follows:

I. Purpose and Scope

This Standing Order governs criminal case management and the timing and enforcement of pretrial motions in the Criminal Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit in Martin County for all felony and capital cases. It implements uniform, consistent, and predictable pretrial scheduling practices to promote orderly case progression, minimize last-minute trial disruptions absent compelling justification, and ensure firm but fair docket control. The timing requirements, treatment of stayed or inactive cases, and consequences for untimely motions herein mirror the directives adopted for criminal divisions pursuant to Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.190, with amendments effective July 13, 2026, including motions to dismiss charging documents, motions asserting immunity under section 776.032, Florida Statutes (Stand Your Ground), and motions to suppress evidence or statements.

II. Applicability

This Standing Order applies to:

1. All capital cases in which the State is not seeking the death penalty.

2. All felony cases punishable by life or by life sentence.

3. All other felony cases.

III. Filing Deadlines for Motions to Dismiss, Motions to Suppress, and Stand Your Ground Motions

1. **General Rule**. All motions to dismiss a charging document, motions to suppress evidence or statements, and Stand Your Ground motions must be filed no later than the deadlines set forth in this section.

2. **Capital (non-death sought).** No later than 200 days after the charging document is filed in capital cases in which the State is not seeking the death penalty.

3. **Felony punishable by life or by life sentence**. No later than 200 days after the charging document is filed in felony cases punishable by life or by life sentence.

4. **Other felony cases**. No later than 120 days after the charging document is filed for felony cases that are not punishable by life or by life sentence.

IV. Stayed or Inactive Cases

1. **Suspension of Deadlines While Inactive.** If a case is removed from the active docket and stayed due to findings of incompetency or other

legitimate reasons, the deadlines in Section III do not apply during the period of inactivity.

2. **Reinstatement and New Deadline**. Upon return of a stayed case to the active docket and presentation before the presiding judge, any motion to dismiss, motion to suppress, or Stand Your Ground motion must be filed within 90 days.

V. Untimely Motions: Consequences and Exceptions

1. **Mandatory Dismissal of Untimely Motions.** The trial judge will dismiss as untimely any motion identified in Section III that is not filed before the applicable deadline.

2. **Exceptions.** The presiding judge may modify deadlines by court order in a particular case, and an otherwise untimely motion need not be dismissed if the defendant demonstrates good cause for the delay, if the motion is based on fundamental due process grounds.

VI. Court's Case Management Authority

Nothing in this Standing Order limits the authority of the presiding judge to modify deadlines, provide reasonable time standards for discovery compliance, set meaningful pretrial and case management conferences, and establish trial dates to promote efficient case management and resolution.

VII. Effective Date

The effective date of this Standing Order is September 1, 2026.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, at Stuart, Martin County, Florida, August 28, 2026.

Elizabeth A. Metzger
Circuit Court Judge

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