

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY,
FLORIDA

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO:
20-37-S**

IN RE: GRAND JURY – EMPANELMENT EXTENSION FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY

WHEREAS, section 905.01(3), Florida Statutes, states: "The chief judge of each circuit court shall regularly order the convening of the grand jury for a term of 6 months," and rule 2.215, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, authorizes the chief judge to enter administrative orders to further the administration of justice in the circuit;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to section 905.01(3), Florida Statutes, there shall be a Grand Jury empaneled in each county of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit every six months, serving for a term of six months;

WHEREAS, AO14-12 established the Grand Jury in Seminole County is to be empaneled the Fall term beginning the 3rd Monday of October

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2020, Chief Justice Charles T. Canady issued Amendment 3 to Administrative Order AOSC20-23, providing that it is the intent of the judicial branch to transition to optimal operations in a manner that protects the public's health and safety during each of the following anticipated of the pandemic:

- a. Phase 1 – in-person contact is inadvisable, court facilities are effectively closed to the public, and in-person proceedings are rare;
- b. Phase 2 – limited in-person contact is authorized for certain purposes and requires use of protective measures;
- c. Phase 3 – in-person contact is more broadly authorized and protective measures are relaxed; and
- d. Phase 4 – COVID-19 no longer presents a significant risk to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, AO20-28 2nd amended established reopening the courts of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit and entering phase 2 in conformity with AOSC 20-23 *Amendment 1* which will result in a greater number of persons using and occupying courthouses, and

WHEREAS, in order to implement the objectives of AOSC 20-23 *Amendment 1* and Executive Order 20-112 and all orders and phases, the empanelment of the Grand Jury requires an extension,

IT IS ORDERED, Pursuant to section 905.01(3), Florida Statutes, the Grand Jury for the Fall Term of 2020 shall have an extension and shall be empaneled by the Fourth Monday of October, 2020.

Done and Ordered, this 17th day of September, 2020.

CHARLES ROBERTS
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ACTING CHIEF JUDGE

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