

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2017-049 PA/PI-CIR

**RE: HURRICANE IRMA**

Due to the fact that Hurricane Irma was a hurricane of unprecedented magnitude and the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Pasco and Pinellas Counties, was in the direct path of Hurricane Irma, it has become necessary to order the continued closure of the courts to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of Pasco and Pinellas Counties. Although Irma has passed, its path has left significant damage. Over half of Pasco and Pinellas Counties remain without power, including some of the court facilities. Schools and other entities remain closed. Many people are still traveling back to the area after evacuating. Some roads remain impassable. Foremost is the safety of the people of Pasco and Pinellas Counties. The Florida Supreme Court issued Administrative Order AOSC17-46 directing the closure of the Florida State Courts System on Friday, September 8, 2017. Sixth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2017-044 ordered the activation of Administrative Order 2015-017 PA/PI-CIR through 8:01 a.m., Monday, September 11, 2017. Sixth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2017-046 ordered the extended activation of Administrative Order 2015-017 PA/PI-CIR and court closure through 7:59 a.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2017. Sixth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2017-048 extended activation of Administrative Order 2015-017 PA/PI-CIR and court closure through 7:59 a.m., Wednesday, September 13, 2017. In order to provide for continued operations of the Court during an emergency, and in accordance with Article V, section 7, Florida Constitution, Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes,

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. The activation of Administrative Order 2015-017 PA/PI-CIR is hereby extended and regular court operations shall remain suspended in Pasco and Pinellas Counties through 7:59 a.m., Thursday, September 14, 2017.
2. Advisory hearings for Pasco County for Wednesday September 13, 2017 will be at 1:00 p.m. Advisory hearings for Pinellas County for Wednesday September 13, 2017 will be at 8:30 a.m.
3. Crucial functions will continue at the discretion of the Chief Judge or his designee in accordance with Administrative Order 2015-017 PA/PI-CIR. This Administrative Order is hereby rescinded 8:01 a.m., Thursday, September 14, 2017, unless otherwise extended by written order from the Chief Judge.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2017.

ORIGINAL SIGNED SEPTEMBER 2017  
BY JACK HELINGER, ACTING CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges  
The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney  
The Honorable Bob Dillinger, Public Defender  
The Honorable Paula O'Neil, Clerk of Court, Pasco County  
The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of Court, Pinellas County  
The Honorable Chris Nocco, Sheriff, Pasco County  
The Honorable Bob Gualtieri, Sheriff, Pinellas County  
Gay Inskip, Trial Courts Administrator  
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel  
Kimberly Thompson, Director of Criminal Courts, Pasco County Clerk's Office  
Lillian Simon, Director of Administrative Services for Pasco County  
Paul Sacco, Director, Facility Management, Pinellas County  
Jeffrey Steinsnyder, County Attorney, Pasco County  
Jewel White, County Attorney, Pinellas County  
Dan Biles, County Administrator, Pasco County  
Mark Woodward, County Administrator, Pinellas County  
Brian Berkowitz, General Counsel, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice  
Rebecca Kapusta, General Counsel, Department of Children and Families  
Jennifer Kuhn, Interim Regional Managing Director, Department of Children and Families Celeste  
Fernandez, Community Development Administrator, Department of Children and Families  
Patrick Barrentine, Circuit Administrator, Department of Corrections, Pasco and Pinellas  
Kevin Guthrie, Director, Emergency Management, Pasco County  
Sally Bishop, Director, Emergency Management, Pinellas County  
Michael Cooksey, Director, Pinellas County Department of Justice and Consumer Services  
Law Enforcement Agencies, Pasco and Pinellas Counties  
Salvation Army  
C.A.S.A.  
The Haven, Domestic Violence Center  
Bar Associations, Pasco and Pinellas Counties  
Law Libraries, Pasco and Pinellas Counties