

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-052 PA-CIR

**RE: AFTER-HOURS PROCEDURES FOR BAKER ACT AND MARCHMAN ACT
HEARINGS IN PASCO COUNTY**

To improve the processing of petitions filed under Chapters 394 (Baker Act) and 397 (Marchman Act), Florida Statutes, the regular hours for filing these petitions in Pasco County must be modified. When litigants arrive at the Courthouse after 4:00 p.m. seeking to file these petitions, it usually results in overtime expenditures for the Clerk of the Circuit Court and increases operating costs for the county because staff must remain after 5:00 p.m. to process the paperwork. After consulting with the Clerk, it was agreed that the best way to address this budgetary concern was to utilize the after-hours procedures beginning at 4:00 p.m. on regular business days. Accordingly, it is

ORDERED:

Effective immediately, the following after-hours procedures for filing petitions for involuntary examination or involuntary placement under the Baker Act (Chapter 394, Florida Statutes) and for involuntary assessment and stabilization or involuntary treatment under the Marchman Act, (Chapter 397, Florida Statutes) are implemented:

1. After hours means petitions filed after 4:00 p.m. or before 8:30 a.m. on a regular business day, or at any time during a holiday or weekend day.
2. Baker Act petitions for involuntary examination or for involuntary placement and Marchman Act petitions for involuntary assessment and stabilization filed after hours will be received for filing and date/time stamping by the Clerk of Court but will not be processed after hours. After-hours petition filings will be addressed by the court on the next business day.
3. Petitioners wishing to file after hours shall be informed of the following:
 - a. Their petition will be addressed by the court the following business day.
 - b. The petitioner may contact law enforcement or call 911 in the event of an emergency relating to the respondent as provided for in Chapters 394 and 397.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida, this
_____ day of December 2021.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON DECEMBER 27, 2021
BY ANTHONY RONDOLINO, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges
The Honorable Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney
The Honorable Sara Mollo, Public Defender
The Honorable Nikki Alvarez-Sowles, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pasco County
The Honorable Chris Nocco, Pasco County Sheriff
Gay Inskip, Trial Courts Administrator
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel
North Tampa Behavioral Health
Morton Plant North Bay Recovery Center
BayCare Behavioral Health- King Helie Adult Treatment Center
Trinity Behavioral Health
Zephyrhills Correctional Institution
Bar Association, Pasco and Pinellas County
Law Libraries, Pasco and Pinellas County