

FRANK I. GREY
COUNTY COURT JUDGE
COUNTY CRIMINAL SECTION 16 & CIVIL TRAFFIC SECTION 24, 25 & 27

Judicial Assistant: Jessica Smith cocrimw2@jud6.org
INSTRUCTIONS AND JUDICIAL PRACTICE PREFERENCES
7530 Little Road
New Port Richey, FL 34654
(727) 815-7057

HELP FOR PARTIES WITHOUT ATTORNEYS:

The judicial assistant cannot answer your legal questions. Under Florida law she could be prosecuted for a first degree misdemeanor, unlicensed practice of law, were she/he to give you legal advice. Please do not ask her/him to answer legal questions.

The judge can only visit with you about your case in the courtroom in the presence of all the parties involved with the case. Please do not call the judge and expect to have a conversation with him or attempt to relay a message to him through the judicial assistant. If you want to bring a matter to the court's attention, put it in writing and file it with the Clerk of the Court under the case number you are calling about. Be sure to send a copy of the information to the opposing party.

Judge Grey must apply the same rules to all parties, regardless of whether you have an attorney. Judge Grey's Judicial Assistant can help you to schedule a hearing. The Judicial Assistant may not help you with your case or send information to the other party or attorney for you. Please do not ask the Judicial Assistant for the outcome of a hearing or to verify that an order has been signed; you may review the Pasco County Clerk's website for details about your case. Please remember that whenever you file something with the Clerk or provide the judge a copy, you must send a copy to all the attorneys or parties at the same time.

Emails to the judge are not permitted.

The Court will not consider any email to the Judge nor consider it to be a motion. If any party wants the judge to take an action, the party must file a motion.

Motions on Criminal Cases:

The courthouse has blank motions available on the first floor in order to have a matter heard before the Court. These are matters such as motions to modify probation, lift a warrant/capias or motions to lift a no-contact order. Parties seeking a hearing should fill out the request as clearly as possible, including a statement of what action the filer wishes the Court to consider. These motions will be set for hearing by the Judicial Assistant and a notice of hearing will be sent by the Judge's Office to the address or email listed in the motion.

Motions and Requests by Parties Represented by the Office of the Public Defender or Private Counsel:

The Court cannot speak with an individual represented by an attorney, nor can the Court entertain any motion filed by a party with an attorney. You must contact your attorney if you wish to have the Court consider any action on your behalf. This includes motions to continue a matter on an emergency basis.

TO SCHEDULE HEARINGS:

Please contact our office, 727-815-7057, to schedule all hearings.

PRE-TRIAL

PLEA NEGOTIATIONS:

Prefers active involvement in plea negotiation process.

May become involved in designating additional conditions or making a separate plea offer.

CONTINUANCES:

Clear with opposing counsel, Judicial Assistant will remove and reset hearings. Trial continuances must be the subject of a motion and scheduled hearing.

DISCOVERY ISSUES:

When discovery disputes occur, counsel must confer and make a good faith attempt to resolve them without a hearing. If a hearing must be held, it should be timely scheduled in order to avoid potential trial delay. All trial motions must be filed and addressed prior to calendar call.

ZOOM/VIDEO CONFERENCING:

The Court cannot understate the strong preference for in person appearances. Requests for appearance via Zoom will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All request must be made via motion and submission of a proposed order. All request must be submitted to the Court at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. A defendant's presence may not be waived if utilizing technology for remote appearance.

COURTESY COPIES AND DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO THE COURT FOR REVIEW:

Courtesy copies of case law should be exchanged at least 48 hours prior to hearing. The Court reviews all pleadings and case documents prior to hearing and additional copies of documents contained in the Court file should not be sent to the Court. Case law is the only thing that should be included in submission to the Judge's office. All copies of case law should be in physical form, as the office will not accept submissions via email.

DEPOSITIONS DISPUTES:

In every instance, certify the question and schedule a hearing.

MISCELLANEOUS PROBLEM RESOLUTION:

Will not discuss any aspect of the case unless both counsel are present.

TRIAL

NO SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS WILL BE HEARD DAY OF TRIAL, UNLESS WITH PRIOR COURT APPROVAL AND MUST BE ADDRESSED PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL.

MOTIONS IN LIMINE:

1. Before calendar call at a scheduled hearing.
2. Left to the attorney to decide
3. No hearings on day of trial.

CONTINUANCES:

Trial continuances must be the subject of a motion and scheduled hearing prior to the day of trial.

COURTROOM ETIQUETTE:

Counsel should request permission to approach the bench or the witness.

When the jury enters or exits the courtroom, counsel and the defendant should remain seated.

Attorneys should address their arguments and comments to the Court, not to each other.

VOIR DIRE PROCEDURE PREFERENCE:

Prefer attorneys inquire of the entire panel. Seating chart with juror's names will be provided.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- NO speaking objections. Counsel should only state legal basis for any objection.
- Defendants must be present at Pre-Trials, unless previously excused by the Court. Phone call to judge's office for waiver is acceptable.
- Defendants MUST be present at all motions to set aside capias or Bench Warrants for Failure to Appear.
- Copies of all substantive motions should be provided to the judge at least one week prior to the hearing in order that the Court may be familiar with the issues with hearing set prior to Calendar Call.

****ALL ORDERS (ALONG WITH THE MOTION) THAT REQUIRE JUDGE GREY'S SIGNATURE MUST BE UPLOADED INTO JAWS AND ALL CONTINUANCE DATES MUST BE FILLED IN BEFORE BEING UPLOADED AS THE COURT CANNOT CHECK ANY BOXES OR FILL IN ANY BLANKS IN JAWS****