

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 16TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF
FLORIDA IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY

**EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER**

IN RE:

ORDER SUSPENDING COURT
OPERATIONS DUE TO THREAT
OF TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, Governor Ron Desantis declared a State of Local Emergency for Monroe County at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024 due to the approach of Tropical Storm Helene; and

WHEREAS, conditions along the Overseas Highway will deteriorate rapidly, not allowing for safe travel for judges, staff and litigants to and from the three Monroe County Courthouses; it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the operations of the courts of Monroe County and the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit shall be suspended beginning Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 5 p.m. Court operations will resume Friday, September 27, 2024, at 8:30 a.m., if weather conditions permit.

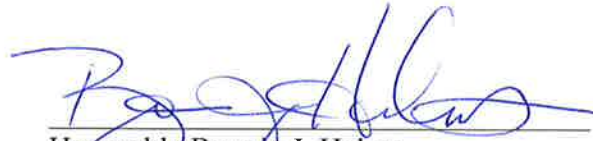
HOWEVER, the following court related functions **will** continue:

1. Juvenile detention hearings;
2. Dependency shelter hearings;
3. Issuance of domestic violence restraining orders;
4. Marchman Act involuntary commitments;
5. First Appearance hearings will be held Thursday, September 26, 2024, at the Marathon Courthouse for all three court locations at 9:00 a.m., if conditions permit.
6. Law enforcement officers seeking search warrant and arrest warrant review by the duty judge shall follow night and weekend procedures by contacting Monroe County Sheriff's Office dispatch.
7. Law Enforcement shall continue Baker Act involuntary detoxification procedures.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING COURT REOPENING

8. Information concerning the resumption of court operations in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit can be found on the Court's website at www.keyscourts.net or by calling the emergency hotline at (305) 295-3644.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Key West, Monroe County, Florida, this 25th day of September, 2024.


Honorable Bonnie J. Helms
Chief Judge

cc: Clerk of Court
DCF
DJJ
Office of the Public Defender
Office of the State Attorney
Office of Regional Counsel
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
Key West Police Department
Monroe County Bar Association