

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/HURRICANE
CONDITIONS

_____:

WHEREAS, a local state of emergency exists due to the approach of Hurricane Irma and Monroe County will be under a mandatory evacuation; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to suspend court operations to enable court personnel and other personnel from agencies who provide services and support for court operations sufficient time to prepare their homes for the storm and to evacuate, now therefore, 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 6, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. Court operations will resume Monday, September 11, 2017, at 8:30 a.m, if weather conditions allow.

Provided FURTHER, that such suspension of court operations shall include the suspension of all of the following activities:

1. Juvenile detention hearings;
2. Dependency shelter hearings;
3. Issuance of domestic violence restraining orders;
4. Issuance of repeat violence restraining orders;
5. Marchman Act involuntary commitments;
6. First Appearance hearings on Saturday, September 9 and September 10, 2017.
7. Jury Duty scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2017, is cancelled.

HOWEVER, the following court related functions will continue:

1. First Appearances will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, Thursday, September 7, 2017 and Friday, September 8, 2017 at 9:00 am at the Monroe County Detention Center on Stock Island.

2. Law Enforcement shall continue Baker Act involuntary detoxification procedures.
3. Individuals advising authorities that they are in need of domestic violence restraining orders shall be assisted in receiving shelter and protection at any hurricane shelter available and advised to seek restraining orders when normal court activities resume.
4. Juveniles arrested for any detainable offense shall be released to their parents or responsible adult with a notice to appear and for this purpose law enforcement shall have the right to detain said juvenile beyond 6 hours, if necessary.
5. Children taken into custody by the Florida Department of Children and Family Services shall remain with the Department without court order until regular court operations resume.

EMERGENCIES ARISING DURING PERIOD OF SUSPENDED COURT ACTIVITIES

6. For any court emergency arising September 6, 2017, through September 10, 2017, please contact Monroe County Sheriff's Office Dispatch, who will contact the Duty Judge.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING COURT REOPENING

7. For more information concerning the resumption of court operations in the Sixteenth Circuit, call the court's emergency hotline at (305) 295-3644 or on the Court's website at www.keyscourts.net.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Key West, Monroe County, Florida, this 5th day of September, 2017.



Honorable Mark Jones
Chief Judge

cc: Clerk of Court
DCF
DJJ
Office of the Public Defender
Office of the State Attorney
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
Key West Police Department
Domestic Abuse Shelter