Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC22-72

IN RE:

EMERGENCY REQUEST TO EXTEND TIME PERIODS UNDER ALL FLORIDA RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR COLLIER AND LEE COUNTIES IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS Hurricane Ian caused the closure of the courts on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, through Tuesday, October 4, 2022, in Collier County and on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, through Friday, October 7, 2022, in Lee County; and

WHEREAS on Monday, September 26, 2022, the courts were closed for the observance of Rosh Hashanah, and on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, the courts were closed for the observance of Yom Kippur; and

WHEREAS this emergency also may have temporarily impeded and, notwithstanding the reopening of the courts in Collier and Lee Counties, will continue to impede the ability of attorneys, litigants, witnesses, jurors, and others in the performance of their duties and obligations with respect to many legal processes; and WHEREAS it is the intent of this order to equitably relieve parties in all pending cases in Collier and Lee Counties by extending legal time limits that they otherwise would have been unable to meet and will be unable to meet due to the emergency; and

WHEREAS it is the intent of this order to suspend the speedy trial procedure during the times stated herein in the manner described in *Sullivan v. State*, 913 So. 2d 762 (Fla. 5th DCA 2005), and *State v. Hernandez*, 617 So. 2d 1103 (Fla. 3rd DCA 1993);

THEREFORE, pursuant to the administrative authority conferred upon me by article V, section 2 of the Florida Constitution, and Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.205(a)(2)(B)(iv),

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. All time limits prescribed or allowed by rule of procedure, court order, statutes applicable to court proceedings, or otherwise pertaining to court proceedings are extended from the close of business on Friday, September 23, 2022, until the close of business on Monday, October 24, 2022, for Collier County and until the close

of business on Thursday, November 10, 2022, for Lee County.

- 2. All time limits involving the speedy trial procedure, in criminal and juvenile court proceedings, are suspended from the close of business on Friday, September 23, 2022, until the close of business on Monday, October 24, 2022, for Collier County and until the close of business on Thursday, November 10, 2022, for Lee County.
- 3. The extension of time periods under this order shall apply only when the last day of those periods falls within the time extended. The suspension of time limits under the speedy trial procedure restores additional days equal to the number stated herein.
- 4. There may be instances where, because of this emergency, these and other time limits applicable to matters in or outside Collier and Lee Counties could not be met even upon application of the periods stated above. If such a claim is made, it shall be resolved by the court in which jurisdiction is vested on a case-by-case basis when a party demonstrates that the lack of compliance with requisite time periods was directly attributable to

this emergency and that equitable remedy is required.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on October 13, 2022.

Chief Justice Carlos G. Muoz

ATTEST:

John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

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