

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup>  
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

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WHEREAS, a local state of emergency exists due to the approach of Tropical Depression Three/Tropical Storm Bonnie and Monroe County and the Florida Keys are under a Tropical Storm Warning; 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

WHEREAS, conditions along the Overseas Highway will deteriorate rapidly, not allowing for safe travel 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 Friday, July 23, 2010, at 6:00 a.m. Court operations will resume Saturday, July 24, 2010, at 9:00 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;

HOWEVER, the following court related functions will continue:

1. First Appearance hearings for Key West and Marathon will be held Friday, July 23, 2010, from the Monroe County Detention Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. by Judge Mark Jones.
2. First Appearances for Plantation Key will be held Friday, July 23, 2010 from the Plantation Key Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. by Judge William R. Ptomey, Jr.
3. Law Enforcement shall continue Baker Act involuntary detoxification procedures.

4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

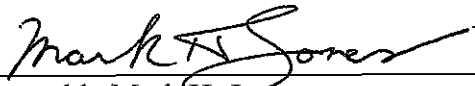
**EMERGENCIES ARISING DURING PERIOD OF SUSPENDED  
COURT ACTIVITIES**

7. For any court emergency arising July 23, 2010, please contact Monroe County Sheriff's Office Dispatch, who will contact the duty judge.

**QUESTIONS CONCERNING COURT REOPENING**

8. 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](http://www.keyscourts.net).

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Key West, Monroe County, Florida, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2010.

  
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Honorable Mark H. Jones  
Acting 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