

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR HARDEE, HIGHLANDS, AND POLK COUNTIES, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 7-16.0

IN RE: CONTINUANCES OF FINES AND/OR COURT COSTS

WHEREAS, in order to maintain consistency and in consideration of the efforts on behalf of Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties to collect unpaid fines and court costs, it is essential for the efficient administration of justice to allow the Clerks of the Court for Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties, Florida, to grant one request for a continuance of fines and/or court cost;

NOW THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that:

The Clerks of the Court for Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties, Florida ("Clerks"), are hereby authorized to grant one request for an extension of time for the payment of fines and/or costs imposed by the county courts in county criminal cases for a period of thirty (30) days from the due date imposed by the Court at the time of sentencing.

Such extensions of time are not authorized for the payment of fines and/or costs that are a condition of probation.

No additional extensions of time by the Clerks are authorized without Court approval.

With regard to the payment of fines and/or costs imposed for non-criminal traffic violations, the Clerks may grant one-time extensions for a period of sixty (60) days.

Special Limited Exception: Effective upon signing, and until close of business on Friday, April 20, 2020, unless amended by subsequent order, the Clerks may, without request, extend the time for the payment of fines and/or costs imposed in county criminal cases for a period of sixty (60) days and for non-criminal traffic violations for a period of one hundred-twenty (120) days.

This Administrative Order vacates Administrative Order No. 2002-01, entered by the County Court of Polk County on February 15, 2002, and is effective upon signing.

DONE and ORDERED in Bartow on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
ELLEN S. MASTERS, Chief Judge

Original: Polk County Clerk of Courts

Copies: All Judges  
Hardee County Clerk of Court  
Highlands County Clerk of Court  
Polk County Clerk of Court  
Electronic Bar Mailing