

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF YAZOO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

RE: NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020 TERM OF COURT

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Court's Motion concerning the Nov/Dec. Term of Court in Yazoo County. The Court will endeavor to move the cases to final resolution during the term. Therefore, you are to report to the Court on November 19, 2020, in writing, whether your clients will enter a plea or go to trial. You are to report in Court on November 23 at 12:00 p. m. on the final status of your cases for the Nov/Dec. Term of Court. Defense Attorneys, please start now getting in contact with your clients and contacting the State for plea offers, if any. **If the State plans on offering a recommendation, please submit the same to the defense attorney on or before November 13, 2020**, if you have not already done so. Do not wait until November 23, 2020 to do this. The Court will have a final status conference on November 23, 2020. The State shall provide the Defense Attorneys with their **final plea offer** on or before November 13, 2020. The Defense must decide on or before November 19, 2020, whether they will accept the final offer. I need to know your client's final decision on November 23, 2020. The status report will assist the Court in setting cases for trial on days where all defendants, that are not previously set, will enter a guilty plea. This will hopefully prevent wasted court days. In the event the first setting enters an open plea on the morning of trial, the other settings should be present and ready for trial.

You are ordered to be mindful and abide by the Court's standing orders on scheduling of criminal motions, psychological evaluation and omnibus hearings. The criminal status

conferences are set for Defense Attorneys and the District Attorney to meet with the Court on Monday, November 23, 2020 at 12:00 p. m. to report the status of all cases set on the Nov/Dec. Docket.

The following Defense Attorneys are hereby ordered to be present:

T. Murry Whalen Alva Taylor Belinda Stevens Marcus Williams James Powell
Aafram Sellers Alton Peterson John Donelson Rick Pratt Kelvin Camp
Dennis Sweet, IV Winston Thompson Neysha Sanders Dexter Woodberry

The District Attorney and the Attorney General's offices are also ordered to be present at the status conference, prepared to report on the State's position.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will hear pleas on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 9:00 a. m. All other pleas heard after November 25, 2020 will be open pleas. If an attorney cannot be present for status conference, you shall contact another attorney to stand in for you.

The parties failing to abide by this Court's order shall be subject to contempt proceeding, which may result in the payment of jury fees and other sanctions.

ORDERED this 5 day of November, 2020.


CIRCUIT JUDGE