

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF YAZOO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

RE: AUGUST 2020 TERM OF COURT

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Court's Motion concerning the August Term of Court in Yazoo County. In light of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Court will endeavor to meet the needs or responsibility of all parties and will try to move the case to final resolution during the term. Therefore, you are to report to the Court on July 30, 2020, in writing, whether your clients will enter a plea or go to trial. You are to report in Court on August 3 at 12:00 p. m. on the final status of your cases for the August Term of Court. **Your client does not have to be present in 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 your final recommendation on or before July 22, 2020.** Do not wait until August 3, 2020 to do this. The Court will have a final status conference on August 3, 2020. The Defense must decide on or before July 30, 2020, whether they will accept the final offer. I need to know your client's final decision on August 3, 2020.

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, August 3, 2020 at 12:00 p. m. to report the status of **all** cases set on the August Docket.

If you have recently traveled out of State or the Country, please advise the Court Administrator and she will take your information by telephone. Please call her on or before

July 29, 2020.

The following Defense Attorneys are hereby ordered to be present:

Alva Taylor *Belinda Stevens* *T. Murry Whalen* *Marcus Williams*
Dennis Sweet, IV *Alton Peterson* *Rick Pratt* *Joe Hollomon* *Neysha Sanders*
Kelvin Camp *Aafram Sellers* *Ashley Turner-Harris* *Winston Thompson*

The District Attorney office is also ordered to be present at the status conference, prepared to report on the State's position and must also notify the Court if there has being any recent out of State or Country travel, Attorneys and staff. All persons entering the courtroom on any given day should have taken their temperature on the morning of. This includes court staff, judge staff, district attorney staff, attorneys, sheriff department, and anyone else entering the courtroom.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will hear pleas on Friday, August 7, 2020 at 9:00 a. m. All other pleas heard after August 7, 2020 will be open pleas. If an attorney cannot be present for status conference, you shall contact another attorney to stand in for you or call your status in to the Court Administrator.

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 9 day of July, 2020.


CIRCUIT JUDGE