

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

RE: FEBRUARY 2020 TERM OF COURT

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Court's Motion concerning the February Term of Court in Humphreys County. The Court will endeavor to move the cases to final resolution during the term. **Therefore, Defense Attorneys are to report to the Court on February 20, 2020, in writing, whether your clients will enter a plea or go to trial. The District Attorney is to report to the Court on February 20, 2020, in writing, as to whether ready to proceed to trial on each case.** The Attorneys shall report in Court on February 24 at 12:00 p. m. on the final status of your cases for the February Term of Court. The Defendants shall be present at **status conference**, no excuses, if not present a bench warrant will be issued. **The Court advised the defendants at arraignment to be back in court on the 1st day of the term.**

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 February 14, 2020, and a final offer on or before February 19, 2020,** if you have not already done so. Do not wait until February 24, 2020 to do this. The Court will have a final status conference on February 24, 2020. The Defense must decide on or before February 24, 2020, whether they will accept the final offer. I need to know your client's final decision on February 24, 2020. The status report will assist the Court in setting cases for trial on days where defendants, that are 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, February 24, 2020 at 12:00 p. m. to report the status of all cases set on the February Docket.

The following Defense Attorneys are hereby ordered to be present:

Tanisha Gates *Dexter Woodberry*

The District Attorney office is 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 Friday, February 28, 2020 at 9:00 a. m. **All other pleas heard after February 28, 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 29 day of January, 2020.


CIRCUIT JUDGE