

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF YAZOO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

RE: MARCH 2021 TERM OF COURT

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Court's Motion concerning the March Term of Court in Yazoo County. The Court will endeavor to move the cases to final resolution during the term. The term will begin on Monday, March 15, 2021, therefore, Defense Attorneys are to report to the Court on March 11, 2021, in writing, whether your clients will enter a plea or go to trial. You are to report in Court on March 15 at 12:00 p. m. on the final status of your cases for the March Term of Court. **Please have your clients present in court, if they are not in MDOC and need transporting.** 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 March 8, 2021,** if you have not already done so. State do not wait until March 11 or 15, to do this. The Court will have a final status conference on March 15, 2021. The Defense must decide on or before March 15, 2021, whether they will accept the final offer. I need to know your client's final decision on March 15, 2021. The status report will assist the Court in setting cases for trial on days where all defendants 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, March 15, 2021 at 12:00 p. m. to report the status of all cases set on the March Docket.

The following Defense Attorneys are hereby ordered to be present:

T. Murry Whalen Alva Taylor Belinda Stevens Marcus Williams

Kevin Camp Sanford Knott Jerald Mumford Cynthia Stewart Charlie Carr

Dennis Sweet, III Joe Hollomon Gaines Dyer Winston Thompson, III Matt Baldrige

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 Friday, March 19, 2021 at 9:00 a. m. All other pleas heard after March 19, 2021 will be open pleas. If an attorney cannot be present for status conference, and only have one or two cases on the docket, he or she can call the court administrator on Friday, March 12, 2021 with the final status.

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 22 day of February, 2021.


CIRCUIT JUDGE