

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC20-86

IN RE: EMERGENCY REQUEST TO EXTEND TIME PERIODS
UNDER ALL FLORIDA RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR
OKALOOSA AND WALTON COUNTIES IN THE FIRST
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, through Friday, September 18, 2020, Hurricane Sally caused the closure of the courts in Okaloosa and Walton Counties in the First Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS this emergency also may have temporarily impeded the ability of attorneys, litigants, witnesses, jurors, and others in the performance of their duties and obligations with respect to many legal processes throughout the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS it is the intent of this order to equitably relieve parties in all pending cases by extending legal time limits that they otherwise would have been unable to meet due to the emergency;

THEREFORE, pursuant to the administrative authority conferred upon me by article V, section 2 of the Florida Constitution, and Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.205(a)(2)(B)(iv) and 2.205(a)(2)(B)(v),

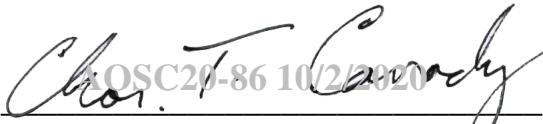
IT IS ORDERED that:

1. In Okaloosa and Walton Counties all time limits prescribed or allowed by rule of procedure, court order, statutes applicable to court proceedings, or otherwise pertaining to court proceedings, which are not currently suspended by *In re: Comprehensive COVID-19 Emergency Measures for the Florida State Courts*, Fla. Admin. Order No. 20-23, as amended, are extended from the close of business on Monday, September 14, 2020, until the close of business on Monday, September 21, 2020.

2. The extension of time periods under this order shall apply only when the last day of those periods falls within the time extended.

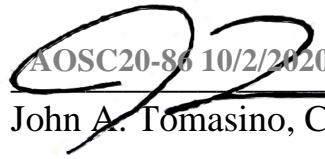
3. This Court recognizes that there may be instances where, because of this emergency, these and other time limits applicable to matters in or outside Okaloosa and Walton Counties could not be met even upon application of the periods stated above. If such a claim is made, it shall be resolved by the court in which jurisdiction is vested on a case-by-case basis when a party demonstrates that the lack of compliance with requisite time periods was directly attributable to this emergency and that equitable remedy is required.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on October 2, 2020.



Chief Justice Charles T. Canady
AOSC20-86 10/2/2020

ATTEST:



John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court
AOSC20-86 10/2/2020

