



## **A MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC** **FROM THE FIFTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL**

The Coronavirus outbreak has significantly affected our daily lives and routines, and is a cause of great concern and anxiety. There is much each of us can do individually to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus, reduce the risk of infection, and mitigate its impact, and we encourage you to follow the advice of the experts.

We want to reassure you that the Fifth District Court of Appeal has implemented health and safety protocols. We are following the guidelines and directives of the Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control in an effort to ensure, as best we can, that the Court remains open for business and ready to serve the community. Additionally, we are following the directives issued by Chief Justice Charles Canady and Governor Ron DeSantis.

As most of you know, our filing system is fully electronic, and you should continue to utilize the electronic portal for filing all motions, pleadings, notices and other documents. If you do not have the ability to file electronically, we have staff here at the courthouse to assist you as needed. If you plan on visiting the courthouse in person to file a document or to seek assistance from the Clerk's Office, please be advised of the following:

If you:

1. Have been diagnosed with the Coronavirus, COVID-19, or live with someone who has been diagnosed with the Coronavirus, COVID-19;

OR

2. Have recently traveled internationally, on a cruise, or to an area of the United States experiencing community spread of the Coronavirus, COVID-19;

OR

3. Have been exposed to someone who has recently traveled internationally, on a cruise, or to an area of the United States experiencing community spread of the Coronavirus, COVID-19;

OR

4. Are experiencing flu-like symptoms such as fever, muscle ache, cough, or shortness of breath,

**PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE COURTHOUSE. Please call (386) 947-1530 to obtain assistance.**

We will continue to actively monitor developments related to the Coronavirus and will update our website as circumstances warrant.

This information is subject to change based on developments in our state's effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. For further information, please visit <https://www.flcourts.org/Resources-Services/Emergency-Preparedness/COVID-19-Information-and-Updates>.

Thank you for your support, understanding and cooperation.

Kerry I Evander, Chief Judge