

Practice Update

Service of Process in Florida During COVID-19

April 15, 2020

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The following is a list, by County, of emergency administrative orders in place regarding the status of availability and/or restrictions imposed on service of process throughout the State of Florida.

The below links for each jurisdiction do not include all administrative orders for each jurisdiction and contain only links to administrative orders pertaining to service of process.

[Click here for Florida Supreme Court Order AOSC20-23.](#)

As of 4/10/20 the Secretary of State is accepting service of process.

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Sara A. Brubaker
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County	Current Service of Process Status	Links to COVID-19 Admin. Orders
Alachua (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	Admin. Order 11.26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/633282/7195631/AOSC20-23.pdf
Baker (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf
Bay (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A circuit-wide moratorium is imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations 	Admin Order 2020-00-08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf

Bradford (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/633282/7195631/AOSC20-23.pdf
Brevard (18 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per AO-20-15(2nd amended) – The Sheriff and all process servers are directed to suspend service of process on possession in property cases until 05/29/20. No summonses will be issued on eviction or foreclosure matters. 	<p>AO20-15 (2nd Amended)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.brevardclerk.us/administrative-orders?ID=bb2a6a00-f9b0-4c00-a9f0-fafba4b51d98 <p>Link to All Administrative Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.brevardclerk.us/administrative-orders
Broward (17 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Admin. Order 2020-32-Temp. V.F., no defaults are to be entered, no writs of garnishment or possession are to be executed through 5/29/20 	<p>2020-32-Temp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.17th.flcourts.org/2020/03/27/order-court-operations-through-april-17-2020/ <p>Link to All Administrative Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.17th.flcourts.org/administrative-orders/
Calhoun (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-00-08 orders a circuit-wide moratorium be imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations. 	<p>Admin Order 2020-00-08</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf
Charlotte (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Citrus (5 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order A-2020-15-B orders that the Sheriff shall suspend posting and execution of all writs of possession through 4/17/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.circuit5.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/a-2020-15-b.pdf
Clay (4 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3/20/20 Administrative Order orders that, absent presiding judge's approval, no writs of possession shall be issued or served until 4/30/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.clayclerk.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Covid-19-Admin-Order-March-20-2020-foreclosures-sales-evictionwrits.pdf

Collier (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Columbia (3 rd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
DeSoto (12 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Dixie (3 rd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Duval (4 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order No. 2020-07 orders stay of execution of any writ of possession or writ of eviction through 4/3/2020 in Duval County. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.duvalclerk.com/adminOrders/files/update/2020-07-5FDDCFE5-E821-4F2C-87CA-9862C679605E.pdf
Escambia (1 st Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Flagler (7 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Franklin (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Gadsden (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Gilchrist (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/633282/7195631/AOSC20-23.pdf

Glades (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Gulf (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A circuit-wide moratorium is imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations 	Admin Order 2020-00-08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf
Hamilton (3 rd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Hardee (10 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 1-53.2(14) authorizes until further notice each Sheriff to stay execution of writs of possession and orders authorizing removal of tenants going forward and prior to entry of AOSC20-17. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.jud10.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/adminOrders/AO_1-53.2.pdf
Hendry (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Hernando (5 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order A-2020-15-B orders that the Sheriff shall suspend posting and execution of all writs of possession through 4/17/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.circuit5.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/a-2020-15-b.pdf
Highlands (10 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 1-53.2(14) authorizes until further notice each Sheriff to stay execution of writs of possession and orders authorizing removal of tenants going forward and prior to entry of AOSC20-17. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.jud10.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/adminOrders/AO_1-53.2.pdf
Hillsborough (13 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order S-2020-23 does not prohibit certified process servers from attempting service of initial non-enforceable civil process as long as the server is physically able to maintain at least a 6-foot social distance from the person being served. Additionally, Administrative Order S-2020-023 authorizes the Sheriff of Hillsborough County to continue stay the execution of the following orders until further ordered by the Chief Judge: Writs of possession; Levies; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.fljud13.org/AdministrativeOrders/CourtOperations.aspx

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replevins; • Five-day evictions; • Writs of garnishments; • Regular summonses; • Legal documents; • Mental health documents (notices of hearings and summonses / subpoenas); • Criminal papers (juvenile criminal summonses that are served on the juvenile and their parent for a crime and criminal traffic cases, and out-of-county summonses for the same); • Paid papers (divorce papers, notices of hearings / motions); • Department of Revenue paperwork; • Out-of-state orders; • In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; • All felony subpoenas from the State Attorney's Office except for subpoenas for first degree felony and capital felony witness subpoenas for jury trials scheduled for April 20, 2020 and later. 	
Holmes (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A circuit-wide moratorium is imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations 	Admin Order 2020-00-08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf
Indian River (19 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Servers are Serving - Admin. Order 2020-01(12) authorizes until further order of the court the Sheriffs of all four counties to stay the execution of the following orders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Writs of possession; ◦ Levies; ◦ Replevins; ◦ Five-day evictions; ◦ Writs of garnishments; ◦ Regular summonses; ◦ Department of Revenue paperwork; ◦ Out-of-state orders; ◦ In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.circuit19.org/about-courts/administrative-orders/2020-01
Jackson (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A circuit-wide moratorium is imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations. 	Admin Order 2020-00-08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/

		administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf
Jefferson (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Lafayette (3 rd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Lake (5 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order A-2020-15-B orders that the Sheriff shall suspend posting and execution of all writs of possession through 4/17/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.circuit5.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/a-2020-15-b.pdf
Lee (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Leon (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Levy (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/633282/7195631/AOSC20-23.pdf
Liberty (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Madison (3 rd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Manatee (12 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	

Marion (5 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order A-2020-15-B orders that the Sheriff shall suspend posting and execution of all writs of possession through 4/17/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.circuit5.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/a-2020-15-b.pdf
Martin (19 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Servers are Serving - Admin. Order 2020-01(12) authorizes until further order of the court the Sheriffs of all four counties to stay the execution of the following orders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writs of possession; Levies; Replevins; Five-day evictions; Writs of garnishments; Regular summonses; Department of Revenue paperwork; Out-of-state orders; In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.circuit19.org/about-courts/administrative-orders/2020-01 http://www.circuit19.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/2020-02.pdf http://www.circuit19.org/about-courts/administrative-orders/2020-03
Miami-Dade (11 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process servers are serving, however be advised that Administrative Order 20-08(2) orders all time limits set by judicial order and/or authorized by rule and statute applicable to civil (inclusive of circuit and county), family, domestic violence, dependency, probate, small claims, traffic, bond forfeiture, and appellate proceedings are further suspended until the close of business on Monday, June 1, 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.jud11.flcourts.org/docs/1-20-08%20COVID-19%20EMERG%20PROC%20AND%20FURTHER%20SUSPENSION%20OF%20TIME%20PER%20SET%20FORTH%20IN%20AO%20NOS.%2020-04%20AND%2020-05_CONFORMED.pdf
Monroe (16 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process; however, any process server must currently be commissioned in and a resident of Monroe County due to closure of the Keys to visitors. Check with your local commissioned process server prior to sending documents for service. 	
Nassau (4 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-7 orders foreclosure cases and residential tenant eviction cases may proceed, however clerk's issuance of writs of possession shall be suspended through 4/17/20, and no county or circuit judge shall issue an order directing the Clerk to issue a writ of possession during the period of suspension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwjh8qCPrt7oAhUEy6QKHcokBrYQFjAAegQIARAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fnassauclerk.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F03%2FAdmin-Order-7.pdf&usg=AOvVaw2pf59gntcZFFAxX1WjdT7r
Okaloosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of 	

(1 st Circuit)	process.	
Okeechobee (19 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Servers are Serving - Admin. Order 2020-01(12) authorizes until further order of the court the Sheriffs of all four counties to stay the execution of the following orders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writs of possession; Levies; Replevins; Five-day evictions; Writs of garnishments; •Regular summonses; •Department of Revenue paperwork; •Out-of-state orders; •In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.circuit19.org/about-courts/administrative-orders/2020-01
Orange (9 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Osceola (9 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Palm Beach (15 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 12.510-04/2020.9* (III)(7) orders that the Clerk and Comptrollers Office shall not issue writs of possession through 5/29/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.15thcircuit.com/sites/default/files/administrative-orders/12.510.pdf
Pasco (6 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Pinellas (6 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Polk (10 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 1-53.2(14) authorizes until further notice each Sheriff to stay execution of writs of possession and orders authorizing removal of tenants going forward and prior to entry of AOSC20-17. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.jud10.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/adminOrders/AO_1-53.2.pdf
Putnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of 	

(7 th Circuit)	process.	
St. Johns (7 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Saint Lucie (19 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Servers are Serving - Admin. Order 2020-01(12) authorizes until further order of the court the Sheriffs of all four counties to stay the execution of the following orders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writs of possession; Levies; Replevins; Five-day evictions; Writs of garnishments; Regular summonses; Department of Revenue paperwork; Out-of-state orders; In-county and out-of-county tax deeds; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.circuit19.org/about-courts/administrative-orders/2020-01
Santa Rosa (1 st Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Sarasota (12 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Seminole (18 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per AO-20-15(2nd amended) – The Sheriff and all process servers are directed to suspend service of process on possession in property cases until 05/29/20. No summonses will be issued on eviction or foreclosure matters. 	<p>AO20-15 (2nd Amended)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.brevardclerk.us/administrative-orders?ID=bb2a6a00-f9b0-4c00-a9f0-fafba4b51d98 <p>Link to All Administrative Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.brevardclerk.us/administrative-orders
Sumter (5 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order A-2020-15-B orders that the Sheriff shall suspend posting and execution of all writs of possession through 4/17/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.circuit5.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/a-2020-15-b.pdf
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of 	

Suwannee (20 th Circuit)	process.	
Taylor (20 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Union (8 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service of execution of writs of possession or writs of bodily attachment in family law DOR cases through 5/29/20. No further restrictions indicated by administrative order as of 4/10/20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://circuit8.org/wp-content/uploads/11.26-Suspending-Execution-of-Child-Support-Writs-of-Bodily-Attachment.pdf https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/633282/7195631/AOSC20-23.pdf
Volusia (7 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Wakulla (2 nd Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Order 2020-04(X) authorizes each Sheriff to stay execution of all writs of possession and orders directing removal of tenants during the pendency of the public health emergency or until further order of the court. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://cvweb.clerk.leon.fl.us/public/clerk_services/official_records/download_document.asp?book=5426&page=512
Walton (1 st Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 4/10/20, no administrative order has been entered which impacts service of process. 	
Washington (14 th Circuit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A circuit-wide moratorium is imposed on the service of writs of possession until further order of the Court resuming normal operations. 	Admin Order 2020-00-08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.jud14.flcourts.org/sites/default/files/media/doc/administrative_orders/2020-00-08.pdf