

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Order Number 2010-40-Gen

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING CLOSURE
OF COURTHOUSE**

(a) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states the chief judge shall “develop an administrative plan for the efficient and proper administration of all courts within that circuit.”

(b) Circumstances may arise when the closure of the central courthouse and/or satellite courthouses is required because of unforeseen events. It is necessary a policy be established to reflect the chief judge has the authority to close and reopen the central courthouse and/or satellite courthouses as is appropriate.

(c) In accordance with the authority vested in the chief judge by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is ordered:

(1) If the Mayor of Broward County, Florida declares a state of emergency for Broward County then the operations of the Broward County Courts and Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Courts are immediately suspended. The Broward County Courts and Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Courts shall resume operation as directed by the Chief Judge or upon lifting of the state of emergency declaration, whichever shall first occur.

(2) The Chief Judge may suspend the operations of the Broward County Courts and/or Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Courts at any time circumstances require the suspension of operations. The Chief Judge may suspend operations at one, some, or all of the courthouse facilities as required by the circumstances.

(3) Upon the Chief Judge suspending the operations of the Broward County Courts and/or Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Courts or if a declaration of a state of emergency is issued by the Mayor of Broward County all non essential personnel shall be released from his or her employment duties and directed to vacate the central courthouse and/or satellite courthouses.

(4) Upon the Chief Judge directing the resumption of operations of the Broward County Courts and/or Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Courts all personnel shall report to work.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida on June 22, 2010.

s/Victor Tobin
Victor Tobin, Chief Judge