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

Administrative Order No. 2019-82-Crim

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUPPLEMENTING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2018-14-CRIM REGARDING *STATE OF FLORIDA V. NIKOLAS JACOB CRUZ*, CASE NO. 18-001958CF10A

(a) Pursuant to Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, the chief judge of each judicial circuit is charged with the authority and the power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice.

(b) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(2) states that the chief judge is the "administrative officer of the courts within the circuit and shall, consistent with branch-wide policies, direct the formation and implementation of policies and priorities for the operation of all courts and officers within the circuit."

(c) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states that the chief judge "shall, considering available resources, ensure the efficient and proper administration of all courts within [this] circuit."

(d) Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2018-14-Crim designates *State of Florida v. Nikolas Jacob Cruz*, Case No. 18-001958CF10A a high-profile case requiring effective case management, and directed the Trial Court Administrator or her designee to implement, if necessary, the Procedures for Special Interest/High Profile Proceedings as set forth in the Circuit's administrative order governing the media.

(e) The assigned division judge has set the trial in this matter for January 2020, requiring the implementation of certain additional procedural guidelines to ensure efficient and expedient resolution. A copy of the Order Setting Dates for Pretrial Motions and for Trial is attached to this Administrative Order as Attachment "A".

(f) In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, section 43.26, Florida Statutes, and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

(1) The Clerk of the Court and all judicial officers shall comply with Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2017-37-Gen (As To Jury Management), except as set forth herein.

(2) Judge Elizabeth Scherer (Circuit Criminal Division FJ) shall receive priority for the summoning and selection of jurors for trial in this matter. Where such priority may conflict with the speedy trial rights of other defendants, the division judge assigned to the case in which a Notice of Expiration of Time for Speedy Trial has been filed and within the "window of recapture" shall advise the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Criminal Division or Chairperson for the County Criminal Division, as appropriate.

(3) Judge Scherer shall be given priority and preference with respect to the use of any courtroom for purposes of pre-trial, trial, and post-trial matters pertaining to this case so as to accommodate as many interested parties as possible.

(4) The Broward Sheriff's Office shall provide sufficient security to ensure preservation of order and decorum throughout all proceedings in this matter.

(5) All judges, Broward Sheriff's Office deputies and personnel, and court staff shall extend courtesies before and during the trial of this matter, as may be needed.

(6) The Media Committee established pursuant to Administrative Order 2018-14-Crim and this Court's administrative order governing the media shall regularly communicate and/or meet to ensure compliance with all local procedures and policies, or any directive(s) from the assigned division judge, Chief Judge, or Chief Judge's designee, pertaining to media coverage of court proceedings.

(7) This Order supplements Administrative Order 2018-14-Crim and shall remain in effect until further order of this Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 22nd day of October, 2019.

/s/ Jack Tuter
Jack Tuter, Chief Judge

**** FILED: BROWARD COUNTY, FL Brenda D. Forman, CLERK 10/17/2019 3:36:49 PM.****

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

STATE OF FLORIDA,	)	CASE NO.: 18-1958CF10A
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	JUDGE: SCHERER
v.	)	
	)	
NIKOLAS CRUZ,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

ORDER SETTING DATES FOR PRETRIAL MOTIONS AND FOR TRIAL

THIS CAUSE comes before the Court, *sua sponte*, after this Court announced the months in which it would hear pretrial motions in this matter and then proceed to trial. In consideration of those representations, this Court now formally and more specifically finds as follows:

In February, 2019, this Court put all parties on notice that the trial in this matter would commence in January, 2020. Accordingly,

- Pretrial motions will be heard on this Court's calendar from **January 13, 2020 through January 24, 2020**, Monday – Friday from 10:00am until 5:00pm.
- All pretrial motions shall be filed by the parties on or before **Friday, December 27, 2019**, and the corresponding hearings shall be set during the two week period set forth above.
- Jury selection will commence on Monday **January 27, 2020**
- Beginning January 2020, Division FJ, presided over by Judge Scherer, will temporarily move from Courtroom 7750 to Courtroom 7840, the largest courtroom available, until the conclusion of the trial in this case.

DONE AND ORDERED on this 17 day of October, 2019, in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida.

ELIZABETH SCHERER
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Copies furnished to:
Office of the State Attorney
Office of the Public Defender