

NOTICE CONCERNING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROBATION EFFECTIVE UNTIL APRIL 15TH.

Following the State of Emergency issued in response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Florida and for the safety of community corrections staff, effective March 16, 2020, Community Corrections will temporarily suspend offender reporting to the State Probation Offices throughout Florida with the exception of offenders being sentenced to a term of supervision or offenders being released from prison with supervision to follow. When possible, offenders should be instructed in the Courtroom to reduce the number of offenders reporting to Probation Offices.

Probation Officers will continue to ensure public safety by providing effective supervision of offenders in the community. Officers will conduct Telephone Personal Contacts (TP) in lieu of Office Personal Contacts (OP). Offenders should be encouraged to complete and send forms from the Department of Corrections Public website. Field contacts will remain the same.

The offender office suspension will be in effect through April 15, 2020. The decision to reinstate normal office operations will be evaluated in consultation with the Secretary and Chief of Staff.

In regards to cases being sentenced in court, all new cases placed on community supervision will still report to the intake office for processing as they always have. We have court officers sitting in VOP court to provide the offenders with instructions as far as reporting goes. All cases that are reinstated without any modification will be instructed to report to their assigned officer by phone for further direction. Cases that are modified will still report to the probation office for proper processing. If at any time an instruction needs to be provided to an offender in the absence of the court officer, we would ask that the offender be instructed to immediately call their probation officer and speak to their officer and if the officer is not available, to speak to a supervisor.

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