

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SPECIAL ORDER

RESCINDING LOCAL RULE NO. 4

WHEREAS, the former process for approval of juror selection plans required the chief judge to request that the Florida Supreme Court approve entry of a local rule which outlined the juror selection plan and certified that the majority of judges authorized to conduct jury trials in the county had consented to the use of an electronic system for juror selection; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the above process, the Court entered Local Rule No. 4, titled Selection of Jurors by Computer in Highlands County, on September 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 40.225(2), Florida Statutes, the current process for approval of juror selection plans requires the clerk of the court to submit a proposed plan (that has been approved by the chief judge) to the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court for review and approval; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 40.225(3), Florida Statutes, upon approval of the juror selection plan, the Chief Justice must enter an administrative order approving the plan; and

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2020, the Chief Justice entered AOSC20-25, titled In Re: Juror Selection Plan: Highlands County, which approved the juror selection plan submitted on October 17, 2019; and

WHEREAS, AOSC20-25 superseded Local Rule No. 4; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the authority vested in the chief judge under article V, section 2(d), Florida Constitution; section 43.26, Florida Statutes; and Rule 2.215(b)(2), Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration;

It is, therefore, **ORDERED** that Local Rule No. 4, titled Selection of Jurors by Computer in Highlands County and entered on September 15, 1997, is hereby **RESCINDED**.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers in Bartow, Polk County, Florida, this 11th day of April, 2024.

s/JAMES A. YANCEY, Chief Judge

Original: Polk County Clerk of Courts

Copies:

All Judges

Highlands County Clerk of the Courts

Nick Sudzina, Trial Court Administrator

Electronic Bar Mailing