

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**CASE NUMBER: 32-2024-CA-000100-CAAM
Circuit Civil Division**

**ARTHUR PENELLO
JOHN TUTTLE
STEVE GRAY
DUANE LASTER,
Plaintiff,**

-vs-

**JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
Defendant.**

ORDER SETTING CAUSE FOR NON-JURY TRIAL AND PRE-TRIAL

Pursuant to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 2.250(a)(1)(B), and in accordance with AO 2024-00-01 and SC2023-0837, the following is hereby ORDERED:

1. That this cause is hereby set for a **NON-JURY TRIAL (via zoom)** (<https://zoom.us/j/5750510920>, Meeting ID: 575 051 0920) before the Honorable Christopher N. Patterson, Circuit Judge, on **Monday, July 14, 2025, commencing at 9:00 a.m. (CT)**, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. One (1) hour has been reserved. All trials will be set for one (1) hour; if you need additional time you must contact the Judicial Assistant at williamsa@jud14.flcourts.org, no later than thirty (30) days before trial.
2. That a **PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE** shall be held via zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/5750510920>, Meeting ID: 575 051 0920) before the Honorable Christopher N. Patterson, Circuit Judge, on **Monday, June 23, 2025, commencing at 9:00 a.m. (CT)**, pursuant to Rule 1.200, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, to consider all matters suggested therein and to simplify the issues to expedite the trial of this cause. Fifteen (15) minutes have been reserved.
3. That in Order for the full purpose of the Pre-Trial procedures to be accomplished, it is ordered that each attorney who will participate in the trial of the cause and each self-represented party must be present at all meetings and hearings required by this Order. Those in attendance must be vested with full authority to make admissions and disclosures of fact and to bind his or her

client by agreement in respect to all matters pertaining to the trial of the cause and the Pre-Trial Conference.

4. **COURT REPORTERS:** ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR A COURT REPORTER SHALL BE MADE BY THE PARTY REQUIRING A COURT REPORTER.
5. **PRE-TRIAL DISCLOSURE:** Within 45 days of this Order, each party shall file and serve the other with:
 - a. **WITNESSES:** A witness list of the names and addresses (sufficient for service of subpoena) of all persons that will be called to testify at trial.
 - b. **EXPERT WITNESSES:** A list of all experts that will be called to testify at trial so that expert discovery is timely completed as required by paragraph six (6) below.
 - c. **EXHIBITS:** A list of all potential exhibits, copies of which shall be provided promptly to the opposing counsel or party.
6. **DISCOVERY:** The Court directs that all discovery shall be completed FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PRIOR TO THE PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE. Discovery conducted thereafter will be at the risk of the parties. No continuances will be granted because of facts arising from discovery conducted after fifteen (15) days prior to pre-trial conference.
7. **MEDIATION:** This matter shall be referred to mediation and mediation shall occur and be concluded no later than sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled trial date. Failure to attend mediation shall result in the imposition of sanctions on the party or counsel not in attendance. Upon conclusion of mediation, the mediator shall file the written report with the Court.
8. **MOTIONS:** ALL motions, including motions in limine, shall have been filed, scheduled and heard prior to the pre-trial conference. No Motions will be heard subsequent to pre-trial conference absent compelling circumstances and consent of the Court.
9. **TRIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Witness subpoenas shall be delivered for service at least thirty (30) days prior to trial, and the absence of any witness not subpoenaed in this matter shall not be grounds for continuance.
10. **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE:** No later than fifteen (15) days prior to the pre-trial conference, the attorney for each party and all self-represented parties shall confer to discuss the possibility of settlement; stipulate to as many facts and issues as possible and examine all exhibits and documents which may be used at trial.

No later than seven (7) days prior to the pre-trial conference the attorneys or parties shall file a pre-trial stipulation with the court stating the following:

- a. That the parties have met in good faith and discussed settlement, stipulated to as many facts

- as possible, have examined all exhibits and documents which may be used at trial, and have been furnished the names and addresses of all witnesses who may testify at trial.
- b. That the parties are prepared to proceed with the final hearing.
 - c. That the parties have complied with this Order.
11. A hard copy of all proposed exhibits must be delivered to the undersigned at the Washington County Courthouse, 1293 Jackson Avenue, Chipley, FL 32428, at least two (2) business days prior to commencement of the non-jury trial.
12. Failure to comply with the requirements of this Order shall subject counsel or a party to sanctions as the Court shall determine just and proper under the circumstances.
13. The parties shall do all things reasonable and necessary to assure the availability of their witnesses for the entire trial period or to otherwise preserve their testimony for trial as provided by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.
14. **SETTLEMENT:** All counsel shall immediately notify this Court in the event of settlement by filing a Notice of Settlement or dismissal and shall submit a stipulation for an order of dismissal. Counsel shall also notify the Court of any pending hearings that will be canceled as a result of the settlement by contacting the Court's Judicial Assistant by email. A copy of the mediation report is not sufficient to remove the case from the docket.
15. **FINAL DISPOSITION FORM 1.998:** The Prevailing Party shall file Final Disposition Form 1.998 within ten days of final disposition by voluntary dismissal, dismissal pursuant to settlement, or disposal by Judge.

DONE AND ORDERED in Marianna, Jackson County, Florida, on Monday, October 21, 2024.

32-2024-CA-000100-CAAM 10/21/2024 01:52:54 PM



Christopher N. Patterson, Judge
32-2024-CA-000100-CAAM 10/21/2024 01:52:54 PM

Copies to:

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If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at Post Office Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 767-3550 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call 711 or email ADAResult@jud14.flcourts.org.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPEARING REMOTELY BEFORE JUDGE PATTERSON

To appear remotely for your hearing, please carefully follow the instructions below:

VIDEO APPEARANCE: To appear at the hearing via video follow the link below (or type it into your browser):

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/5750510920>

The meeting ID is: **575 051 0920**. However, the link should take you straight through to the meeting and you will not have to enter an ID. If you have never used Zoom, you may want to sign on a few minutes early to make sure that you are able to timely appear. *If you are providing testimony, the Court strongly prefers that you participate via video.*

AUDIO / TELEPHONE ONLY APPEARANCE: If video is not available or practicable, you may appear via audio/telephone only, by dialing **(312) 626-6799** and entering conference code: **575 051 0920** at the appointed time. If you are appearing by phone, you will need a Notary Public present to identify you and administer the oath.

Court reporters may appear via telephone or via video.

PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE/COMPUTER UNTIL YOUR CASE IS CALLED.

There are no fees for attending this court hearing via the Zoom platform. Unless the Judge specifically authorizes an in-person attendance, all individuals, including the court reporter, must attend using the Zoom platform at <https://www.zoom.us>. Please select the “Join A Meeting” link and then enter the Meeting ID and Password to access the hearing.

Court proceedings are open to the public. Members of the public may use the Zoom credentials to access the hearing. Judge Patterson will “host” the videoconference. When you sign on, you be placed in a waiting room. The Court will admit you at the beginning of the hearing. Please name your video feed with your first and last name.

Court Reporters and Digital Court Recording: The Court does not provide a court reporter. If a party wishes to have a court reporter present, that party must arrange for the court reporter’s attendance and must notify all other parties before the hearing.

No Recording Proceedings: By court rule and court order, you are not authorized to make your own audio or visual recording of a court proceeding. No one may take “screenshots” or other audio or visual depictions of a court proceeding. Recording a court proceeding is strictly prohibited unless approved by the Judge. If you violate these rules, you may be held in contempt of court. Members of the media must comply with rule 2.450 regarding media coverage. Please contact the Court’s Public Information Officer for further information.