

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ORDER ESTABLISHING FINES FOR  
SPECIFIC OFFENSES COMMITTED  
DURING SPRING BREAK 2018**

**Administrative Order 2018-2.2**

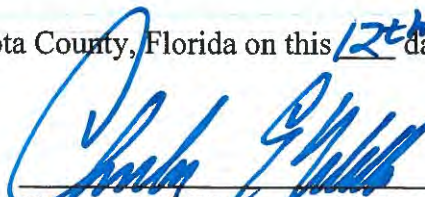
Pursuant to Rule 2.215, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, to improve the administration of justice within the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, and pursuant to requests by the Sarasota Sheriff, the Office of the State Attorney, and other law enforcement agencies for a uniform and efficient procedure for handling of non-violent misdemeanor, alcohol-related offenses, the Court hereby adopts the following procedures and policies for the below described offenses during Spring Break 2018.

Spring Break has a substantial impact on the orderly processing of criminal cases in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. Spring Break will add numerous out-of-state cases for the 2018 workload of law enforcement, judges, clerks of court, and other staff. Assuming these cases were processed in the ordinary manner, the cost to county citizens would be substantial and far outweigh any benefits. Processing such cases would also interfere with the handling of more serious crimes, and risk speedy trial discharges of cases, which require immediate court attention.

For these reasons, the Court finds it necessary to adopt the attached fines schedule and method for processing the types of cases listed, for the purpose of overall orderly administration of justice during Spring Break 2018.

**IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED** that this form and the procedures set forth therein are adopted in Sarasota County and shall be used only as to those crimes listed, and shall be used in lieu of the standard proceedings effective February 1, 2018, until April 30, 2018. Thereafter the rules of criminal procedure will supersede as to the crimes listed.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Sarasota County, Florida on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles E. Williams, CHIEF JUDGE

Original to: Clerk of Court, Sarasota County

Copies to: Court Administration  
North Port Police Department  
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office  
Sarasota Police Department  
State Attorney's Office  
Venice Police Department  
IT Department

**IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

vs.

Agency Case No: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Defendant**

**PLEA OF GUILTY/NO CONTEST IN ABSENTIA**

I acknowledge I am accused of the criminal charge(s) checked below. I represent that I have never been previously charged with this offense.

	COUNTY ORDINANCE AMOUNT DUE	MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE AMOUNT DUE
1. POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER (\$15 Fine + Court Cost/Surcharge)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$283.75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$308.75
2. LITTERING IN A COUNTY PARK (\$15 Fine + Court Cost/Surcharge)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$283.75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$308.75
	FLORIDA STATE STATUTES AMOUNT DUE	
3. POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL UNDER 21 Y.O.A. (\$65 Fine + Court Cost/Surcharge)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$286.25	
4. POSSESSION OF FALSE IDENTIFICATION (D.O.B.) (\$65 Fine + Court Cost/Surcharge)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$286.25	

I understand that I have the right to enter a plea of Not Guilty and appear in court to contest the above charge(s). **Failure to appear on the date indicated OR to enter this plea will result in a warrant being issued for my arrest.**

**This election of plea in absentia is being made pursuant to Administrative Order 2018-2.2 I understand this plea form must be received by the Clerk of the Circuit Court prior to the court arraignment date listed on my summons/notice to appear.**

I wish to enter a plea of (circle one) Guilty/No Contest, and wish to do so in Absentia. That is, I wish to enter my plea without appearing personally before a Judge.

If the court accepts my plea, I understand that the Judge will **WITHHOLD ADJUDICATION**, and impose a fine and court costs as set forth above. Together with signing this form, I submit a cashier's check or money order to the Clerk of the Circuit Court in the above total amount. In doing so, I understand that the court will excuse my appearance at the arraignment date of \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREFORE, I appear in absentia, and represent that I am advised of and hereby certify that I understand the following: **(INITIAL EACH)**

1. The nature and elements of the charge(s) in this cause.
2. The difference between the pleas of Guilty, No Contest, and Not Guilty, and the effect of each plea.
3. The possible results of entering this plea, including the maximum sentence which may be imposed now or upon a material violation of my probation and any mandatory sentence which must be imposed.

4. That I have a right to an attorney and to have an attorney appointed if I cannot afford one, if the Judge is considering jail time. I have intelligently and of my own free will decided to represent myself and give up my right to an attorney.

I understand that when I plead Guilty {admit to the charge(s)} or No Contest {do not contest the above charge(s)}, there will be no trial and that I waive {give up} the following rights voluntarily {of my own free will}:  
(INITIAL EACH)

1. My right to remain silent and not to incriminate myself on the above charge(s);
2. My right to trial and a jury trial where one is permitted;
3. My right to face witnesses against me and to face and question them;
4. My right to make witnesses appear on my behalf through court subpoena;
5. My presumption of innocence and my right to require the State to prove me guilty beyond a reasonable doubt;
6. My right to testify in my own behalf and to present any defenses which I might have; but I understand that I may still offer a brief explanation of the circumstances before being sentenced.

I am entering this plea of my own free will and after careful consideration. No promises or threats or representations (other than by this court) have been made to me.

I am not under the influence of any alcohol or drugs at this time. I know what I am doing and understand the court's instructions. I believe this plea to be in my best interest and admit there is a factual basis for this plea and that the venue is correct.

I understand that if I enter a plea of Guilty or No Contest and I am not a United States citizen, the plea may subject me to deportation.

I understand that upon the Judge accepting my plea of Guilty or No Contest that I give up the right to appeal all matters relating to my guilt or innocence of the charged offense. I will have NO opportunity on appeal to challenge ANY legal ruling in this case UNLESS the judge imposes an illegal sentence, which is greater than any sentence allowed by law.

Having read and understood all of the above, I enter my plea of Guilty/No Contest to the charge(s). This plea is made in absentia, that is, it is made without my being physically present before the court.

SIGNED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

DEFENDANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, a Notary Public / Law Enforcement Officer of the State of Florida personally appeared a person well known or presented identification to me as \_\_\_\_\_, who executed this document in my presence in Sarasota County, State of Florida and who produced \_\_\_\_\_ as identification.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC / LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

MAIL PAYMENT TO:

KAREN E. RUSHING  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC & FINES  
P O BOX 3079  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34230  
Phone: 941-861-7400  
www.sarasotaclerk.com