

JUDGE THOMAS J BROWN
COUNTY COURT CRIMINAL DIVISION 6
Courtroom 3C
18th Judicial Circuit

Location: Moore Justice Center, Courtroom 3C, 2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida 32940

Judicial Assistant, Nancy Hickman: Phone (321) 617-7285 Email: nancy.hickman@flcourts18.org

Docket Sounding

TEAMS appearances are authorized for Private Docket Sounding. Private Attorneys may appear via Judge Brown's virtual link at: <https://fl18.org/tbrown>

Privately represented Defendants are excused from Private Docket Sounding if the defense attorney excused their client.

Inmates will not be transported for Docket Sounding unless specifically requested by the Defense Attorney.

Virtual appearances on TEAMS can be considered when a party is ill, out-of-State, and unable to travel.

Please note parties present in the courtroom will be addressed prior to the court addressing those parties appearing via TEAMS.

Public Defender Docket Sounding

The Public Defender may waive the client's appearance if they have had good contact with their client. The Public Defender may request a virtual appearance for any client that is ill, located out-of-state and unable to travel.

Defendants represented by the **Office of the Public Defender** should contact their attorney's office at **(321) 617-7373** with any questions they may have regarding their appearance at Docket Sounding.

Arraignments (Traffic and Misdemeanor), VOP's. NJT, Infraction Hearings, OTSC, Motion Hearings:

Attendance is required in-person unless previously excused by the Court.

Privately represented Defendants as well as counsel are excused from Arraignments and VOP Arraignments if the Defense Attorney has timely e-filed a Notice of Appearance and Waiver of Arraignment.

TEAMS/SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS:

Parties may request special exception for TEAMS/remote appearances by E-Filing a Motion with the Clerk of Court and copying the Judicial Assistant at least 48 hours prior to the Court event.

Motions:

Motions must be E-filed, copied to the opposing side for objection/input.

If no objection, the attorneys shall email the motion to the Judicial Assistant, copying opposing party and including the language of no objection. The Judicial Assistant will prepare an appropriate Order.

Motions and orders are **not** to be submitted through E-Portal. All motions and orders should be emailed to the Judicial Assistant directly. Please include all case style information when emailing the Judicial Assistant (Case Number, Defendant's Name, etc.)

Hearing times/JACS:

As hearing times are often set quickly, Judge Brown does not use JACS for coordinating and scheduling hearings. Please contact Judicial Assistant, Nancy Hickman at: nancy.hickman@flcourts18.org for assistance.

Continuances must be requested in writing.

Pleas

Plea hearings are encouraged to proceed as set. The Court will accept open pleas to the Court at any time.

Pleas in Absentia are encouraged and will be accepted in all cases. Plea in Absentia paperwork must be submitted to Judge Brown's Judicial Assistant prior to the scheduled court date. Counsel may appear by phone or TEAMS link, or they may opt to waive their appearance completely. Counsel shall submit a fingerprint card (if required) with the original plea in absentia paperwork prior to the court date.

Violation of Probation Arraignments and Hearings

Pro Se Defendants must appear in-person in court at the VOP Arraignment and VOP hearing.

Early Resolution Hearings

Felony ER Arraignment and Public Defender ER are addressed at: **8:00 a.m.**

Private Counsel ER cases are addressed at **8:30 a.m.**

Pro Se Defendants must appear in-person.

If requesting a continuance, contact with the ER State Attorney and if no objection, the ER State Attorney will provide a new ER court date and this date is required to be included on any proposed Continuance Order submitted to the Judge.

Pro Se Defendants must be present for ER Arraignments and Early Resolution Hearings.

Non-Jury Trials and Orders to Show Cause

Pro Se Defendants must be present on the scheduled court date and time.

Jury Trial

Judge Brown will conduct a Calendar Call the first day of the trial week. All attorneys and Defendants must appear in-person for the Calendar Call. Pro Se Defendant's must appear in court. Any inmates on the docket **will be** transported

Mental Health Court

Mental Health Court is scheduled twice a month on Wednesdays. Defendants should keep in contact with the assigned Circles of Care representative throughout the Mental Health Court process. All Defendants should appear on the assigned court date before Judge Brown. Requests to appear virtually may be submitted via email to the Judicial Assistant and will be reviewed by the Judge on a case-by-case basis by the Judge.

Any questions regarding policy and procedure for Division 6/Judge Thomas Brown in Courtroom 3C, please contact the Judicial Assistant: Nancy Hickman at nancy/hickman@flcourts18.org