

APPROVED BY THE
SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA
February 12 2023
THOMAS D. HALL
CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 16TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF
FLORIDA IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY

IN RE:

SPECIAL JURY DISTRICTS
FOR MONROE COUNTY

LOCAL RULE NUMBER 4
AMENDED

WHEREAS, Section 40.015(1), Florida Statutes, provides that in any county having a population exceeding 50,000 according to the last preceding decennial census and one or more locations in addition to the county seat at which the county or circuit court sits and holds jury trials, the Chief Judge, with the approval of a majority of the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, is authorized to create a jury district for each courthouse location, from which jury lists shall be selected in the manner presently provided by law; and

WHEREAS, subsection (2), thereof, provides that each jury district shall include at least 6,000 registered voters; and

WHEREAS, the official U.S. Bureau of Census data indicates that as of 2000, Monroe County has a population of 79,589; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor of Elections indicated that as of August 22, 2001, Monroe County has a registered voter population of 50,833 with the districts as proposed herein consisting of the following apportionment:

Lower Juror District (Precinct Numbers 1 through 17) – 26,725 registered voters; Middle Juror District (Precinct Numbers 18 through 24) – 11,229 registered voters; and Upper Juror District (Precinct Numbers 25 through 33) – 12,879 registered voters; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these geographical divisions is to reduce substantial travel time for jurors and to increase the summoning yield. These geographical divisions reflect a true cross-section of Monroe County, with no systematic exclusion of any group in the juror selection process and do not otherwise violate equal protection requirements. The Court will review this local rule on an annual basis as per *Spencer v. State*, 545 So. 2d 1352 (Fla. 1989); and

A TRUE COPY

Attest:
THOMAS D. HALL, Clerk
Supreme Court of Florida

By: *Charles W. ...*
Deputy Clerk

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 40.015(2), Florida Statutes, the Chief Judge and the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners sought to avoid exclusion of any cognizable group; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners at a regularly scheduled meeting on May 15, 2002 unanimously approved the creation of jury districts consistent with the terms and conditions of this Rule;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred by Rule 2.050(b), Fla.R.Jud.Admin., it is

ORDERED that:

1. There is hereby created three (3) separate jury districts, one for each courthouse location, from which jury lists shall be selected in the manner presently provided by law and local rule. Districts shall conform to the following guidelines:
 - a. Lower Keys Jury District – including the City of Key West to the west end of Spanish Harbor Bridge (Precinct Numbers 1 through 17); and
 - b. Middle Keys Jury District – beginning at the west end of the Spanish Harbor Bridge to, and including, Islamorada (Precinct Numbers 18 through 24); and
 - c. Upper Keys Jury District – beginning at the west end of Plantation Key to and including Ocean Reef and that portion of Monroe County situated upon the mainland of Florida (Precinct Numbers 25 through 33).
2. All civil jury trials and criminal jury trials, including capital cases, will utilize venires drawn from special jury district where the case is to be tried, unless modified by a specific order of the Chief Judge for clear and convincing reasons.
3. The manner of selection shall be controlled by Chapter 40, Florida Statutes and Local Rule Number 5, *In re: Jury Selection*.
4. This Rule shall have no application to circuit grand jurors or statewide grand jurors selected pursuant to Sections 905.01 and 905.37, Florida Statutes, respectively.

By virtue of Rule 2.050(e), Fla.R.Jud.Admin., this Local Rule shall be submitted to the Supreme Court for approval and shall become effective upon the approval date.

DONE and SIGNED in Chambers at Key West, Monroe County, Florida, this 20 day of May, 2002.



Richard G. Payne
Chief Judge

APPROVED by the Supreme Court of Florida on the 2nd day of February, 2003.