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March 20, 2020

Sisters and Brothers,

While the State Judicial Branch has implemented a Level 1 contingency plan, Local 749 A.F.S.C.M.E has called on The Judicial Branch to Close All Judicial Courthouses and Satellite Offices and send All non-essential staff Home. Local 749 A.F.S.C.M.E members are working on the front lines of The Judicial Branch. Our members are the most Vulnerable to contracting the Covid 19 Corona virus within the court system. Currently Our Sisters and Brother are admirably stepping up and volunteering to work during this crisis as requested by management.

Our Juvenile Detention Centers are working in a business as usual manner. There has not been a reduction in staffing in the centers. In these Detention Centers, the Court Support Services Division, should consider alternatives to the current staffing protocols to limit the potential of introduction of the Covid 19 Corona virus. Members are not being given the alternative of working in a skeleton crew as the rest of the Judicial Branch and state employees have to limit exposure.

I have been in contact with AFT/JPE regarding the issues going on since the Level 1 closure ensuring Judicial Unions are being given the same information and updates. All employees should be sent home after completing assigned tasks for the day, not being forced to stay for the business day. We are Working with our Sister Unions showing Solidarity for both of our Bargaining units while keeping our members of the court system safe. I have been working closely with Council 4 and S.E.B.A.C leadership to ensure the Governors Guidelines are being followed By the Judicial Branch. We will continue to update you as information becomes available.

Please go to: Local749.org website for updated information.

Stay safe

In Solidarity,

Ron Nelson

**President**

