

By Senator Gruters

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to trial court security; amending s.
3 30.15, F.S.; requiring sheriffs to provide security
4 for trial court facilities; requiring sheriffs to
5 coordinate with the chief judge on security matters
6 for trial court facilities and to retain operational
7 control over how they provide security for such
8 facilities; specifying that the chief judge retains
9 certain decision-making authority; specifying that
10 sheriffs and their deputies, employees, and
11 contractors are officers of the court when providing
12 security for trial court facilities; providing
13 construction; providing an effective date.

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 30.15,
18 Florida Statutes, to read:

19 30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

20 (4) (a) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, shall
21 provide security for trial court facilities. Sheriffs shall
22 coordinate with the chief judge of the judicial circuit in which
23 their county is located on all security matters for such
24 facilities, but shall retain operational control over the manner
25 in which security is provided. The chief judge of the judicial
26 circuit shall retain decision-making authority to ensure the
27 protection of due process rights, including, but not limited to,
28 the scheduling and conduct of trials and other judicial
29 proceedings, as part of his or her responsibility for the

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30 administrative supervision of the trial courts under s. 43.26.

31 (b) Sheriffs and their deputies, employees, and contractors
32 are officers of the court when providing security for trial
33 court facilities under this subsection.

34 (c) This subsection may not be construed to affect or erode
35 the authority of counties under s. 14, Art. V of the State
36 Constitution or s. 29.008 to otherwise fund security of
37 facilities as the term "security" is defined in s. 29.008(1)(e).

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.