

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF SOUTH GEORGIA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED IN OFFICE
at 11:00 AM/PM

APR 09 2020

Stephanie Key, Clerk
Superior & Juvenile Court
Baker County, Georgia

ORDER

Whereas, the Governor has determined that a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the Coronavirus/Covid-19 and, due to the ongoing public health state of emergency as declared by the Governor on April 3, 2020, and April 8, 2020, and statewide judicial emergency as declared by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia on March 14, 2020 and April 6, 2020, and pursuant to Rule 9.1 and 9.2 of the Uniform Superior Court Rules, and the Supreme Court of Georgia's clarification and amendments to said rules on March 27, 2020, the undersigned have determined that it is neither safe nor feasible to allow the court matters to be conducted in person.

Therefore, effective immediately and until 11:59 P.M of May 13, 2020, it is **ORDERED** the Superior Court of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit shall only conduct essential hearings and court sessions, which shall be done wholly by remote video conferencing, until further notice, unless otherwise ordered by the court. All participating parties shall contact the court at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled court hearing, and the court will provide electronic access information.

IT IS FURTHER **ORDERED**, at that time of hearings, the courtroom/court proceedings will be open to the public, subject to county designated health screenings, but all are encouraged to view and/or participate via virtual conferencing in lieu of a live appearance. If attending in person, all members of the public are required to maintain a six (6) feet spacing from other individuals in the courtroom. All members of the public are encouraged to comply with Center for Disease Control and Prevention Covid-19 prevention guidelines (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick>). All persons who would like to view court proceedings electronically shall contact the court at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled court, and the court will

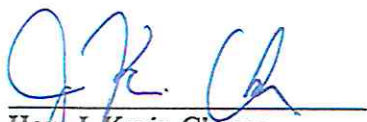
provide electronic access information. Chief Judge J. Kevin Chason's office may be contacted at 229-377-7349 and Judge Heather H. Lanier's office may be contacted at 229-336-2023. Court calendars, itineraries, and additional contact information can be found at <https://www.southgeorgiajudicialcircuit.com>.

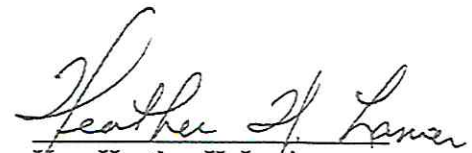
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Sheriff of each county of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit shall post this Order on the doors of the sheriff's office, on his public notification site, and on the exterior courthouse doors;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall immediately notify and serve a copy of the order on the following: all judges and clerks of the county courts of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit. Such service to be accomplished through reasonable means to assure expeditious receipt; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall provide notice of the issuance of this order to the public. Notice shall be provided by whatever means are reasonably calculated to reach the public and may include, without limitation, publication in a newspaper of local or state-wide distribution, including any county legal organ, posting of written notices at the courthouse or other public gathering sites, posting on court or office website or social media sites, transmittal by facsimile or electronic mail, and announcements on television, radio, and/or public address systems.

So ORDERED, this 8th day of April, 2020.


Hon. J. Kevin Chason
Chief Judge of Superior Courts
South Georgia Judicial Circuit


Hon. Heather H. Lanier
Judge of Superior Courts
South Georgia Judicial Circuit

Prepared by the Court.