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CLERK OF COURTS

**EVANS COUNTY STATE COURT, STATE OF GEORGIA
CRIMINAL ARRAIGNMENT/BENCH TRIAL CALENDARS/CIVIL
NON-JURY BEGINNING JULY 13, 2020 AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
RONALD W. HALLMAN, PRESIDING**

CORONAVIRUS SAFETY ORDER

**PURSUANT TO GA. SUPREME COURT ORDER DECLARING STATEWIDE
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY, DATED MARCH 14, 2020, AS AMENDED AND
EXTENDED**

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:

Please note that a failure to follow these instructions may result in adverse action against the case, parties, and/or counsel. Counsel and parties without attorneys (self-represented litigants) are responsible for reading and following these instructions.

All persons shall be required to follow the best practices promulgated by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), and Evans County Health Department (TCHD), including the following:

1. All persons, at all times, shall maintain strict social distancing of not less than six (6) feet while in the courtroom or while approaching the courtroom.
2. All persons will be screened by the Evans County Sheriff's Department prior to entering the courthouse. The following people will be denied entry into the courthouse:
 - a) All persons with a temperature over 100.4 degrees;
 - b) All persons who have or are exhibiting flu like symptoms;
 - c) Anyone who has been in the presence of a person with confirmed Covid 19 virus within the last fourteen (14) days; and
 - d) All people who have been on a cruise or traveled by airline within the last fourteen (14) days.
3. Until further order of the Court, there shall be two (2) calendars for each arraignment day and/or bench trial day, one (1) at 9:00 a.m. and one (1) at 1:00 p.m. There shall be no more than fifteen (15) cases placed on each calendar.
4. In order to maintain proper social distancing in the courtroom, each person admitted into the courtroom shall be seated in an assigned seat by a bailiff. They shall maintain the same seat at all times proper to the call of their case. Upon the conclusion of all matters related to each person's case, they shall exit the courtroom by the side door.
5. The courtroom shall be sanitized thoroughly by the Evans County Sheriff's Office after each session of Court.

6. All persons shall use the stairs instead of the elevator when possible. Only those who are infirmed due to age or medical condition will be allowed to use the elevator. Only one (1) person and one (1) caretaker, if necessary, will be allowed to use the elevator at a time.
7. All persons scheduled for Court shall clean their hands with hand sanitizer, which shall be provided by the Court, prior to entering the courthouse and courtroom.
- 8. All persons shall be required to wear face covers or masks. Those who do not have facial masks will be provided with one by the Court.**
9. Each person who is listed upon the Court's calendar for that date and time shall be allowed to be accompanied by no more than one (1) person.
10. All provisions of this Order shall be applicable to, and binding upon, all parties, attorneys, court personnel and spectators.

ACCOMODATIONS FOR HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS

The following persons are defined as high risk individuals:

1. Those persons who are 65 years of age or older.
2. Those persons who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility, including inpatient hospice, assisted living communities, personal care homes, intermediate care homes, community living arrangements, and community integration homes.
3. Those persons who have chronic lung disease.
4. Those persons who have moderate or severe asthma.
5. Those persons who have severe heart disease.
6. Those persons who are immunocompromised. Many conditions can cause a person to be immune compromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or aids, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medication.
7. Those persons, of any age, with Class III or severe obesity.
8. Those persons diagnosed with the following underlying medical conditions: diabetes, liver disease, and persons with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis.

If any lawyer, party, or witness falls into one of the above categories of high risk individuals, then the lawyer for such party or lawyer who subpoenaed such witness shall notify the presiding

judge or presiding judge's staff of such condition at least three days prior to the scheduled Court notification with a proposed reasonable accommodation for such lawyer, party, or witness. If a party is self-represented, then such party shall follow the same procedure as an attorney for a party. The Court will consider the request and in its discretion, will rule as to which accommodation is appropriate.

RESOURCES

All individuals should educate themselves about the relative dangers of attending gatherings of people, including in person Court proceedings. The CDC, Georgia Department of Public Health, and county health departments are excellent resources for use in such educational process. Each individual is responsible for his or her education in this matter.

IMPLEMENTATION

Except as otherwise specified herein, the Sheriff of Evans County, in the exercise of his discretion, shall be responsible for implementation of these guidelines.

PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF GUIDELINES

This Order and guidelines shall be published on the website of Evans County. A copy of this Order shall be available at the Clerk of Evans County Superior Court office and shall be prominently posted in the Evans County Courthouse where similar public announcements are posted. Furthermore, the Clerk of Court is ordered to email or mail a copy of this Order to each attorney who has any cases pending in the State Court of Evans County and to any attorney who regularly appears in the State Court of Evans County.

DURATION

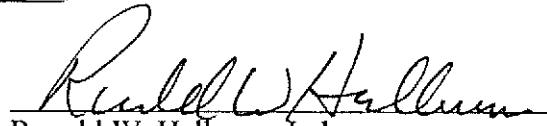
This Order shall be effective until termination of the Declaration of Judicial Emergency by the Supreme Court of Georgia, or further order of this Court.

CONTEMPT FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW

ANY PERSON WHO WILLFULLY FAILS TO ABIDE BY THIS ORDER MAY BE HELD IN CONTEMPT BY THE COURT UNDER PENALTY OF LAW.

The Clerk shall attach a copy of this Order to each Court notice which is sent out for any Court appearances on or after June 30, 2020.

SO ORDERED THIS 30th DAY OF June, 2020.


Ronald W. Hallman, Judge
State Court of Evans County