

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
WESTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**TO THE JUDGES AND CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF STATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MAGISTRATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF PROBATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MUNICIPAL COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT**

**ORDER CLOSING COURTHOUSE AND
DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2024, Governor Brian Kemp issued an Executive Order Declaring a State of Emergency for Tropical Storm Helene which recited in part that Tropical Storm Helene is projected to make landfall September 26, 2024, and that the National Hurricane Center predicts that the storm affect may produce damaging winds, heavy rainfall, and flooding in the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, the Court has received reports from the Athens-Clarke County Government that Athens-Clarke County may experience severe effects of the storm from the evening of Thursday, September 26, 2024, through the afternoon of Friday, September 27, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the emergency substantially endangers or infringes upon the normal functioning of the judicial system, the ability of persons to avail themselves of the judicial system, or the ability of litigants or others to have access to the courts or meet scheduled or time deadlines imposed by the court order or rule, statute of administrative rule or regulation;

IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, the Athens-Clarke County Courthouse shall be closed on Friday, September 27, 2024, and reopen as usual on Monday, September 30, 2024. Superior, State, Magistrate, Probate, Municipal, and Juvenile Court shall be closed on Friday, September 27, 2024. Filings may still be made remotely with the Clerks of the Courts located at the Athens-Clarke County Courthouse through the following websites:

Superior Court: Civil Cases: <https://peachcourt.com/>

Criminal Cases: ez-filing.net/Georgia/

Juvenile Court: All after-hours procedures involving CHINS, Delinquency and DFACS matters shall remain in full force and effect.

For emergency matters that require Court involvement, or for the need to speak to a court official on an emergency basis, please call the Athens-Clarke County Clerk of Court, Elisa Zarate, at 762-400-6497 or the Athens-Clarke County Sheriff's Department, Courthouse division at 706-613-3250.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-62, all court deadlines falling on Friday, September 27, 2024, are hereby suspended, tolled, or extended until Monday, September 30, 2024.

SO ORDERED, at 3:50 p.m. this 26th day of September, 2024, at Athens, Georgia, 30601.



Lisa Lott, Chief Judge, Superior Court
Western Judicial Circuit