

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF CHATTAHOOCHEE, HARRIS, MARION, MUSCOGEE,  
TALBOT, AND TAYLOR COUNTIES  
CHATTAHOOCHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STATE OF GEORGIA

Ex parte #  
24-25

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FILED IN OFFICE  
DATE Sept 25, 2024  
TIME 4:35 PM  
C. A. SMITH  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT  
MARION COUNTY, GEORGIA

ORDER DECLARING WEATHER-RELATED JUDICIAL EMERGENCIES

The undersigned judicial official, acting under the authority of O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60 et seq., hereby declares the existence of a judicial emergency in the counties of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit as the result severe weather conditions including the potential for high winds, and heavy rains, as a result of Hurricane Helene, that officials deem as causing possible hazardous road travel. These road conditions can substantially infringe upon the normal functioning of the judicial system and the ability of jurors, litigants, lawyers, and other persons to have access to the courts and to meet schedules and time deadlines imposed by court order, rule, or statute, or administrative rule or regulation during the following time periods.

In Chattahoochee County, Harris County, Marion County, Muscogee County, Talbot County, and Taylor County, a weather-related emergency existed during the business day(s) commencing at 1:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 26, 2024, and extending through to Friday, September 27, 2024, until 5:00 p.m., whereby all court functions shall cease and close.

As such, for this time-period, the undersigned judicial official hereby suspends, tolls, extends, or otherwise grants relief from deadlines, other time schedules, or filing requirements enumerated in O.C.G.A. § 38-3-62.

The Court is unable at this time to designate another facility for the transaction of court business. Should the state of emergency extend beyond the closure period indicated above, the court shall make a determination of an available, appropriate facility for the conduct of court business when it is appropriate to do so.

This order shall be served upon the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals and the respective clerks thereof; all judges and clerks in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit; and all lawyers and litigants if possible. All Clerks are ordered to post this order conspicuously in their respective courthouses.

SO ORDERED this the 25 day of September, 2024, at 4:15 a.m./p.m.

Arthur L. Smith, III  
Chief Judge Arthur L. Smith, III  
Superior Courts  
Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit