

SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED IN OFFICE  
HENRY COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT

MAY 13 2020

STANDING ORDER FOR COURT PROCEDURES  
DURING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

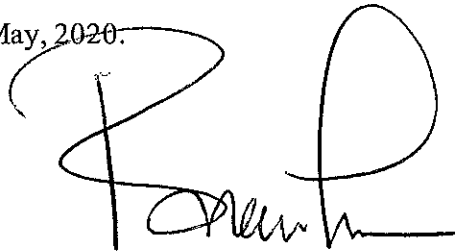
*Barbara A. Harrison*  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

IN ACCORDANCE WITH the Second Order Extending Declaration of Statewide Judicial Emergency entered on May 11, 2020, by the Hon. Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Superior Court of Henry County, Georgia, in consultation with the Georgia Department of Public Health, hereby adopts the following guidelines for in-court proceedings:

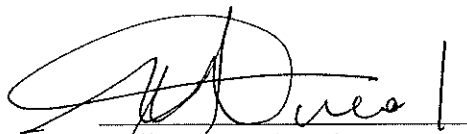
1. **Purpose.** The purpose of these guidelines is to provide for public access to judicial proceedings and a criminal defendant's rights to confrontation and open courtrooms, while making reasonable provision for the health and safety of all persons attending court or working in the Superior Court.
2. **Definitions.**
  - a. "Face mask" means a covering of the mouth and nose but not the rest of the face.
  - b. "Superior Court" means the Superior Court of Henry County, 1 Courthouse Square, McDonough, Georgia.
  - c. "Public area" means all parts of the Superior Court not reserved for staff.
3. **Directions for those who have, have been exposed to, or are especially vulnerable to, COVID-19.**
  - a. Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19; who have been exposed to COVID-19 within 14 days; or who are experiencing fever or cough, should NOT attempt to enter the Superior Court, but should call the telephone number provided with your court notice, or at the door, to speak with someone from the Court.
  - b. Persons with other health limitations which make them especially vulnerable to COVID-19 are invited to call the telephone number provided with your court notice, or at the door, to speak with someone from the Court.
4. **Admission to the Superior Court.** All persons entering the Superior Court shall:
  - a. Be screened for cough, fever and recent exposure to COVID-19;
  - b. Wear a face mask at all times while in the public areas of the Superior Court (provided at the door if needed); and
  - c. Comply with directives of court and security personnel regarding appropriate distancing.
5. **Movement within the Superior Court.** Persons within the Superior Court, outside of courtrooms, shall:
  - a. Stay at least six feet from all other persons (except those with whom they are related or with whom they traveled to court), to the extent practicable;
  - b. Not board elevators with other persons except those with whom they are related or with whom they traveled to court;
  - c. Wear a face mask at all times while in the public areas of the Superior Court;
  - d. Not congregate or loiter in the hallways in a way which obstructs other persons' access to elevators, offices or courtrooms; and
  - e. Comply with directives of court and security personnel regarding appropriate distancing.

6. **Admission to courtrooms.** Persons entering Superior Court courtrooms or waiting areas shall:
  - a. Wear a face mask at all times while in the courtroom or any conference room; and
  - b. Comply with directives of court and security personnel regarding appropriate distancing.
7. **Special court procedures.** Due to the ongoing judicial emergency, the Court is employing special procedures to minimize the risk to everyone's health. To this end, seating in the courtroom will be limited to designated seats, designed to require distancing; and distancing will be enforced in conferences with staff. Due to the limited seating, persons with business before the Court are encouraged not to bring nonessential persons with them, especially children. Handling of paperwork will be kept to a minimum and Court personnel will sanitize areas of the courtroom between users.
8. **Contempt of court.** The procedures outlined in this Order are necessary for the safe, efficient operation of the Court. Persons failing to observe these procedures may be attached for contempt of Court.

SO ORDERED, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.



Brian J. Amero, Chief Judge  
Superior Court of Henry County  
Flint Judicial Circuit



Holly W. Veal, Judge  
Superior Court of Henry County  
Flint Judicial Circuit