

THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE
STATE OF GEORGIA

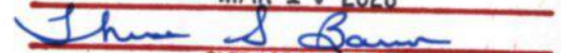
IN RE: Declaration of Judicial Emergency

Date: March 16, 2020

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FILED IN OFFICE

MAR 17 2020


CLERK OF SUPREME
COURT OF GEORGIA

ORDER ON ESSENTIAL JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS
Judicial Emergency Coronavirus/COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Governor has determined that a Public Health State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19, and whereas that state of emergency constitutes a "judicial emergency" pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-60 et seq., see OCGA § 38-3-60 (2).

WHEREAS, the Honorable Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, declared a Statewide Judicial Emergency in the State of Georgia pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-61 due to the continued transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 throughout the State and the potential infection of those who work in or are required to appear in our courts.

WHEREAS, the Honorable Penny H. Freeseemann, Chief Judge of the Superior Court of Chatham County, Eastern Judicial District has issued a circuit wide Order declaring the existence of emergent conditions which require the curtailment of judicial functions in the Eastern Judicial Circuit to those deemed essential to each class of Court.

Therefore, pursuant to these Orders, The Presiding Judge Richard A. Sanders Jr. of the Municipal Court of the City of Bloomingdale DOES HEREBY ORDER AND DECLARE the existence of emergent conditions which require the curtailment of judicial functions in the Municipal Court of Bloomingdale due to the potential transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 throughout the City of Bloomingdale and the potential infection of those who are required to appear in our courts and interact with large groups due to large, non-essential calendars.

Pursuant to the Order of the Honorable Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, **This Judicial Emergency shall terminate on April 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise extended.**

Accordingly, IT IS THE ORDER of the Court that only essential matters shall be heard by the courts during this time period. **Therefore, Bloomingdale Municipal Court scheduled for March 24, 2020 has been canceled and will be rescheduled.** It is anticipated (and hoped) that Bloomingdale Municipal Court scheduled for April 14, 2020 will proceed as scheduled and the Court (and the other Courts throughout Georgia) will be functioning fully by this date. This emergency situation is ever-evolving and the Judicial Council of Georgia is meeting weekly to discuss. Parties or attorneys in any non-essential matters should contact the clerk of court if they have any questions and/or need to ensure their compliance with this Order.

Pursuant to the Orders by the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of Superior Court for the Eastern Judicial Circuit, and the declaration by the Governor, during the period of this Order, the Court hereby suspends, tolls, extends, and otherwise grants relief from: (1) a statute of limitation; (2) the time within which to try a case for which a demand for speedy trial has been filed; (3) the time within which to hold a commitment hearing; and/or (4) such other legal proceedings as determined to be necessary, including calendars involving large numbers of litigants, lawyers, or other persons.

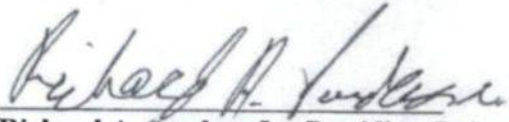
Should the state of emergency extend beyond the period indicated or should the nature of the emergency otherwise require modification by the Court, the Court will make a determination of available alternative remedies for the conduct of court business, as necessary, and a corresponding Order will be entered and distributed in accordance with Georgia law.

IT IS ORDERED that the Chief of Police of the City of Bloomingdale shall post this Order on his public notification site and in the courthouses;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve Chief Justice Harold D. Melton of the Supreme Court with a copy of this Order, such service to be accomplished via email to Tee Barnes, the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Georgia, at barnest@gasupreme.us; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the undersigned shall give notice of the issuance of this Order to the affected parties, counsel for the affected parties, and the public.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 16 day of March, 2020 at 4:11 a.m. (p.m.)


Richard A. Sanders Jr., Presiding Judge
City of Bloomingdale Municipal Court



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