

IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF IRWIN COUNTY
TIFTON JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

Heather C. Culpepper
Chief Magistrate Judge

Denise White
Magistrate Judge/ Clerk

March 18, 2020

NOTICE

In accordance and the guidance of The Council of Magistrate Court Judges, Tifton Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judges, Chief Justice Melton, Gov. Brian Kemp, and President Trump this office will only perform essential functions until further notice from the above-mentioned governing authorities. On March 14, 2020 Honorable Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court entered an Order Declaring a Statewide Judicial Emergency due to the spread of Coronavirus/COVID-19. In order to protect the health, safety and liberty of all citizens of the State of Georgia, all courts and clerk's offices in the state are directed to suspend all court hearings other than essential criminal proceedings and other essential functions.

The following functions have been deemed essential:

First Appearances/ Bond Hearings
Issuance of Arrest Warrants
Issuance of Search Warrants

All court hearings are suspended until further notice. This includes all civil hearings and non-emergent criminal hearings such as county ordinance hearings, preliminary hearings, and pre-warrant application hearings.

Our office will continue to operate and accept new filings but will not be served by our Sheriff's Office until the order is either lifted or expires. Please see Chief Justice Melton's Order attached that explains timeline requirements that have been suspended, tolled, and/or extended.

This Statewide Judicial Emergency shall terminate on April 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise extended. Should the state of emergency extend beyond the period indicated above or should the nature of the emergency otherwise require modification, a determination of available alternative remedies for the conduct of court business will be made as necessary, and a corresponding order will be entered and distributed in accordance with Georgia law.

You may also file new cases with our court online at <https://www.ncourt.com> or by mail. The Magistrate Court may be contacted at 229-468-7671 or via e-mail at irwincountymagistratecourt@gmail.com.

We strongly encourage the public to try to avoid having to enter our building in an effort to abide by the orders of social distancing. We ask all individuals visiting the Magistrate Court to follow the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and the Georgia Department of Health. While the Magistrate Court is remaining open, please refrain from coming to the court if you have a fever or symptoms of a respiratory illness or have been exposed to a person with coronavirus, flu, or any other communicable disease. Thank you for your understanding during this time.

This 18th day of March, 2020.

Heather Culpepper
Chief Magistrate Judge

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FILED IN OFFICE
18 day of March, 2020
Time 3:58 A.M. or P.M.

Magistrate Court Irwin County