

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

ORDER DECLARING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

Whereas, the Governor has determined that a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the Coronovirus/Covid-19 and,

Whereas, the Honorable Harold D. Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia declared a Statewide Judicial Emergency because of the continued transmission of the Coronovirus/Covid-19 throughout the State and the potential infection of those who work in or required to appear in our courts and,

Whereas despite the implementation of and adherence to designated safety guidelines, courthouse worker(s) have tested positive for Covid-19. The County Administrator, Sheriff, and the Emergency Medical Director have all recommended the courthouse be closed. The undersigned have determined that it is no longer safe nor feasible to allow the courthouse to remain open to the general public.

Effective immediately and until 8:00 A.M of April 28, 2020, it is ORDERED that the Calhoun County Courthouse will be closed to the general public. While the courthouse building is closed to the general public, essential services will be provided through online services and telephone. The Court will continue to address essential functions. The County Commission office located at 28007 Main Street, Morgan, Georgia 39866, shall serve for the conduct of court business. In case of judicial emergency, the Clerk of the Court may be contacted at 229-849-2715, Chief Judge J. Kevin Chason's office may be contacted at 229-377-7349 or Judge Heather H. Lanier's office may be contacted at 229-336-2023.

IT IS ORDERED that the Sheriff of Calhoun County shall post this Order on his public notification site and on the exterior courthouse doors;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court 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@gaspureme.us;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall immediately notify and serve a copy of the order on the following; all judges and clerks of the Calhoun County courts; Clerk of the Georgia Court of Appeals; and the Clerk of the Georgia Supreme Court, such service to be accomplished through reasonable means to assure expeditious receipt; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall provide notice of the issuance of this order to the public. Notice shall be provided by whatever means are reasonably

calculated to reach the public and may, without limitation, include publication in a newspaper of local or state-wide distribution, including the county legal organ - The Albany Herald, posting of written notices at the courthouse, and other public gathering sites, transmittal by facsimile or email, and announcements on television, radio, and public address systems.

SO ORDERED this _____day of April, 2020.

Mon. J. Kevin Chason

Chief Judge of Superior Courts South Georgia Judicial Circuit

Hon. Heather H. Lanier

Judge of Superior Courts

South Georgia Judicial Circuit

Prepared by the Court