

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF APPLING COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN RE: Declaration of Judicial Emergency

Date: May 21, 2020

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**ORDER DECLARING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, a statewide judicial emergency has been declared by the Georgia Supreme Court, and extended through June 12, 2020 pursuant to the Second Order Extending Declaration entered May 11, 2020, affecting all courts such that there is a serious health emergency pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60(2)(D);

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED by the local governing authority of Appling County that said health emergency substantially endangers or infringes upon the normal functioning of the Courthouse Annex and there is an immediate need to temporarily close the Courthouse Annex building to normal operations;

Therefore, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, the Honorable Chief Judge Stephen G. Scarlett, Sr. of the Superior Court of Appling County, Brunswick Judicial Circuit **DOES HEREBY ORDER AND DECLARE** the existence of a Judicial Emergency in Appling County, the nature of this emergency is the continued transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 throughout Appling County and the potential infection of those employed at the Courthouse Annex and the general public having business there.

Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that the Courthouse Annex shall be closed from 2:30 p.m. on May 21, 2020 until 8:00 a.m. on May 26, 2020, when it shall reopen for business. This temporary closure will make access to the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court impossible for the duration of said closure; thus it is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the courtroom on the first floor of the Appling County Courthouse is designated as the alternate location to conduct the business of the Superior Court Clerk's office.

Should the closure of Courthouse Annex be extended by the local governing body or should the nature of the emergency otherwise require further 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.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-63:

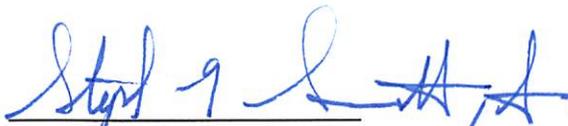
IT IS ORDERED that the Sheriff of Appling County shall post this Order on his public notification site and at the entrance to the Courthouse Annex, and the Clerk shall post this on her public notification site and outside the courtroom on the first floor of the Appling County courthouse.

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](mailto:barnest@gasupreme.us);

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve a copy of the order on the judges and clerk of all courts sitting within Appling County and on the clerks of the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court, such service to be accomplished through reasonable means to assure expeditious receipt; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2020 at 2:30 a.m./p.m.



**Stephen G. Scarlett, Sr., Chief Judge  
Appling County Superior Court  
Brunswick Judicial Circuit**