

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY
FLINT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN RE: Declaration of Judicial Emergency *

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Date: June 29, 2020

Filed in office this the 29
day of June, 2020
at 8:30 o'clock A M
Barbara A. Houston
Clerk, Henry Superior Court

ORDER DECLARING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED that a Judicial Emergency exists in Henry County, Georgia affecting all courts such that there is a serious health emergency pursuant to O.C.G.A. §38-3-60(2)D). *See* O.C.G.A. §38-3-60(2)(D) (providing that “Judicial Emergency” means “[s]uch other serious emergency”).

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED that the Judicial Emergency substantially endangers or infringes upon the normal functioning of the judicial system as it relates to jury service, including grand jury service, and any non-essential matters, unless they can be conducted via video or teleconferencing.

Therefore, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §38-3-61, The Honorable Chief Judge Brian J. Amero of the Superior Court of Henry County, Flint Judicial Circuit DOES HEREBY ORDER AND DECLARE the existence of a Judicial Emergency in the Flint Judicial Circuit. The nature of this emergency is the continued transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 throughout Henry County and the potential infection of those who are required to appear in our courts and interact with large groups due to jury service, including grand jury service, or other large, non-essential calendars.

Thus, the undersigned hereby makes this declaration of a judicial emergency affecting all courts and clerk’s offices in Henry County as it relates to jury service, including grand jury

service and any non-essential matters, unless they can be conducted via video or teleconferencing.

Accordingly, IT IS THE ORDER of the Court that no civil or non-essential matters shall be heard by the Superior Court, State Court, Juvenile Court, Probate Court or Magistrate Court of Henry County on Monday, June 29, 2020 unless they can be conducted via video or teleconferencing. Parties or attorneys in any non-essential matters should contact the chambers of the judge assigned to their case if they have any questions and/or need to ensure their compliance with this Order.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §38-3-62, 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; (4) the time within which to return a bill of indictment or an accusation or to bring a matter before a grand jury; and/or (5) such other legal proceedings as determined to be necessary, including calendars involving large numbers of litigants, lawyers, or other persons. **This Order shall apply to all classes of Court within the Flint Judicial Circuit.**

Should the state of emergency extend beyond the period indicated above 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.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §38-3-63:

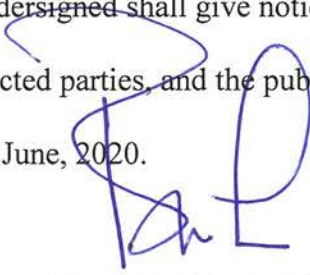
IT IS ORDERED that the Sheriff of Henry County shall post this Order on his public notification site and in the courthouses;

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;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve a copy of the order on the judges and clerks of all courts sitting within the jurisdictions affected 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 29th day of June, 2020.



BRIAN J. AMERO, Chief Judge
Henry County Superior Court
Flint Judicial Circuit