



P.O. BOX 350 BLAKELY, GEORGIA 39823

PHONE: 229-723-7029

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### COVID-19 COURT OPERATING PROCEDURES

- Letters will be mailed out to defendants notifying them of the following conditions under which they will attend court.
  - Only Defendants may attend court. You are not allowed to bring children, spouses, or other family and friends to your scheduled hearing time. Defendants 18 and under may have (1) parent or guardian attend court with you.
  - Please inform the court in advance if you require an interpreter.
  - Court times are staggered in an effort to continue social distancing. You must check in at the security desk at your scheduled court time. If you miss your scheduled time you will be referred to the Clerk to be rescheduled and a late fee may be added. You will not be allowed into the courtroom earlier or later than your scheduled time.
  - Court security will be using temperature scanners to ensure that defendants with temperatures higher than the CDC guidelines are not allowed in court. You will be referred to the clerk for rescheduling.
  - Masks are required. You may bring your own or we will provide a disposable mask for you.
  - Please sanitize your hands upon entering the building at the sanitizing station provided.
  - If you are sick or if you have been around someone who is sick in the past 14 days, please call our office immediately to be rescheduled.
  
- Prior to court the City of Blakely Municipal Court room will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized by employees of the City of Blakely sanitization department. The court room will also be set up utilizing the Center for Disease Control guidelines.
- Upon defendants arrival security will confirm that their name is on the docket for that time period.
- Court security will take defendants temperature and ask the following questions: Have you traveled out of the country in the last 14 days, Have you had contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days? Have you had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days: Fever greater than 100, Difficulty breathing, Cough. Anyone who answers yes to any of those questions or anyone attending court who are considered high risk defendants, such as elderly persons, persons with respiratory illnesses and those with weakened immune systems, will be issued a new court date prior to being allowed into the court room.
- Court room capacity is 10 people and defendants will be scheduled accordingly.
- All court staff will have their temperatures taken and follow the same procedures as defendants attending court.