

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE CITY OF FITZGERALD  
STATE OF GEORGIA

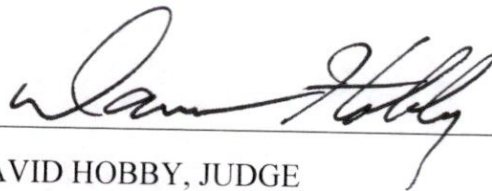
**ORDER REGARDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES**

Due to the ongoing public health state of emergency declared by the Governor and a Statewide Judicial Emergency declared by the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, the Municipal Court of Fitzgerald, Georgia will conduct in-person hearings and court sessions on a limited basis subject to the following guidelines.

1. Each person entering the court lobby will be required to go through a screening process which will include taking the person's temperature. Anyone with a temperature over 100 degrees will not be admitted into the courtroom. Each person entering the court lobby will be requested to use hand sanitizer which will be available.
2. Person falling into one of the following categories shall be denied admittance into the courtroom, without obtaining an exception from the Judge.
  - a. Anyone entering the courtroom who is experiencing a fever, any shortness of breath, persistent cough or sore throat, or any other symptoms of respiratory infection or who has experienced such symptoms and is subject to Georgia Department of Public Health Isolation Protocol will not be admitted into the courtroom.
  - b. Any person who has traveled to or been in close contact with anyone who has traveled to an area or location with widespread, ongoing transmission of Coronavirus "COVID-19" within the last 14 days immediately preceding attempted access to the courtroom, per CDC Guidelines, which countries presently include China, Iran, South Korea, and all European countries.
  - c. Anyone who has been asked to self-quarantine by any healthcare provider or who lives with someone who has been asked to self-quarantine.
  - d. Anyone who has been diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 or has had contact with anyone who has been so diagnosed within the last 14 days will not be admitted.
3. Any person not admitted to the courtroom for the foregoing reasons will be given a telephone number or other form of communication to contact court officials regarding all alternative means of pursuing critical judicial matters. Any person who has a scheduled appearance or was otherwise directed to attend court will not be penalized for their absence provided they contact court officials.
4. Each person admitted to the courtroom will be required to observe social distancing, which includes remaining 6 feet away from anyone else while in the court lobby, courtroom, entering and exiting the building.
5. The wearing of mask is encouraged, except when someone is involved in speaking in the court proceedings.
6. There will be designated places marked with a blue X where each person is allowed to sit while in the courtroom and which will allow social distancing of at least 6 feet. Social distancing shall be required by all who enter, including attorneys, parties, witnesses, spectators and court officials. Social distancing requirements will be strictly enforced.

7. The Court will stagger its proceedings to minimize the number of people in the courtroom at any particular time. All Court proceedings are open to the public, we ask that those attending be limited to only those who are interested in the proceeding going forward at that time.
8. The courtroom and all public areas will be sanitized before and after each session.

This 26th of May, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hobby", written over a horizontal line.

DAVID HOBBY, JUDGE  
FITZGERALD MUNICIPAL COURT

## COURT COVID-19 SCREENING PROTOCOL

Instructions for court security or designated employees:

Upon entering the court, all visitors must attest to or acknowledge to no known illness by responding to the following statements. It is also recommended that persons conducting the screening should wear mask and sterile gloves while practicing social distancing with no less than a three (3) foot barrier.

### COVID-19 SAMPLE SCREENING STATEMENTS

- I attest that I have not traveled to a high-risk area or location identified as a "hot spot" of confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) cases within the last 14 days.
- To the best of my knowledge, I have not had contact with a person confirmed or presumed to have coronavirus (COVID-19) within the last 14 days.
- I attest that I have not exhibited a fever of 100° F or higher within the last 14 days.
- I attest that I have not experienced any difficulty breathing or persistent cough within the last 14 days.
- To the best of my knowledge, I am not currently experiencing any upper respiratory illnesses accompanied by a fever.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Visitor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### TO BE COMPLETED BY SCREENER/COURTHOUSE SECURITY

- Does the individual have a fever greater than 100° F with the temporal thermometer?  
YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

The visitor will be asked to leave the court area if he or she (1) is unable to attest to or respond to the above statements or (2) presents a fever 100° F or higher. The visitor may contact the Municipal Court office at 229.426.5004.