

Due to the COVID-19 PANDEMIC and an Emergency Judicial Order issued by Judge Harold Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, Rome Municipal Court had to reschedule court cases scheduled for March 18, 2020 through July 2, 2020. Rome Municipal Court will resume in-person hearings July 9, 2020.

In response to the threat posed by the COVID-19 virus, the court has implemented some changes. The following guidelines have been established in an effort to ensure everyone has the opportunity to handle their judicial matters safely and efficiently.

- Reminders to maintain six (6) feet distancing have been placed around the building, in the courtroom and on the floor inside the building.
- Notices have been placed at the entrances of the building stating if you are ill or have symptoms of COVID-19, then you should not enter the building.
- An additional court date has been added to assist with the number of people coming to the building and to assist with the back-log of cases.
- Court times have been staggered in an effort to allow for social distancing. Defendants have been instructed to check-in at least fifteen minutes prior to their assigned court time and to provide a cellphone number.
- The number of individuals allowed in the courtroom has been reduced to twenty-one (21) to maintain the recommended six (6) ft. for social distancing.
- Notices have been and will be mailed to individuals notifying them of their assigned court date and time.
- The courtroom will be disinfected prior to each scheduled court day.
- On the day of court bailiffs will check the temperature of individuals and ask COVID-19 health screening questions prior to permitting them to enter the courtroom. If they present a temperature and/or answer yes to any of the health screening questions they will not be permitted to enter the courtroom and their case will be rescheduled.
- If more people check-in than the maximum number allowed in the courtroom, they will be instructed to wait in their car or outside the building until they are notified when they may proceed to the courtroom
- Defendants are asked to wear a face covering or mask while in the courtroom. If they do not have one, the court will provide them with one.
- Individuals are asked to wash or sanitize their hands prior to entering the courtroom.
 Hand sanitizer is available for use prior to entering the courtroom and leaving the courtroom.

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Municipal Court

- In order to comply with social distancing guidelines, we have asked only the defendant and/or their attorney, attend court the court hearing.
- Defendants 21 years of age or younger may be accompanied by one parent/guardian.
- If an individual scheduled for court does not have childcare we ask they notify the court prior to their court date for a courtesy reschedule.
- When necessary we will broadcast the proceedings over Zoom and a link to the court proceedings will be posted on our website before court begins.

Bryan T. Johnson Municipal Court Judge Sonja Henderson Court Administrator