

## J. MICHAEL GREENE Judge

Phone (229) 924-3678 (Ask for the Clerk of Court)

## An Order Establishing a Procedure for the Protection of the Health of Litigants, Lawyers, Judges, Court Personnel, and the Public.

As a result of the viral pandemic currently existing and the potential transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19; and, in compliance with the July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 order of the Georgia Supreme Court; and, for the protection of the court personnel and the public; the Court hereby enters this Order which shall remain in effect until further notice.

1.

Only defendants and/or their attorneys will be allowed to attend a court hearing. Exceptions:

- A. Defendants 21 and under may have one parent or guardian attend the court hearing with them, and,
- B. The general public so long as there is space in the general public section.

2.

The courtroom, common areas, and the lobby will be measured out to reflect 6' social distancing marks by tape or other means.

3.

Some seats will be reserved for the public on a first come, first served basis.

4.

Face masks are required. Hand washing stations will be available in the lobby.

5.

The public bathrooms will not be available.

Before persons enter the courtroom their temperature will be taken. Persons may also be asked certain health questions. Depending on the answers to these questions and a person's temperature a court date may be reset or other arrangements may be made.

7.

All persons who are members of a vulnerable population (such as persons over age 65, individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as high blood-pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune systems are compromised) are encouraged to bring that to the attention of the Court prior to any court appearance so that reasonable alternatives to appearing in person can be explored.

8.

The courtroom remains open to the public as required by law. The above guidelines are intended to be in compliance with public health guidance and with the requirements of the United States, the Georgia constitutions and court rules regarding this emergency.

9.

All persons are referred to the court's website for more information which is: <a href="https://www.americuscourt.com">www.americuscourt.com</a>.

This revised order is made the order of the court, the 13th day of July, 2020.

udge, City of Americas Municipal Court