

## **NOTICE**

### **PLEASE READ BEFORE ENTERING THE COURTROOM**

Pursuant to the Judicial Emergency order, CDC guidelines & the “Georgia Court Reopening Guide” issued by the Judicial Council Strategic Plan Standing Committee and the Judicial COVID-19 Task Force, the following courtroom procedures are implemented for MERIWETHER COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT:

1. TEMPERATURE WILL BE TAKEN AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE COURTHOUSE. NO ONE WHO IS COUGHING, FEVERISH OR ILL MAY ENTER THE COURTROOM.
2. This courtroom is open to the public at all times, but members of the public who are not participants in the ongoing judicial proceeding are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to remain outside the courtroom for health reasons.
3. YOU MUST WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING, unless the Judge allows you to remove it.
4. The only place to observe in the courtroom is from the gallery and you must sit on the yellow marked areas.
5. DO NOT ENTER THROUGH GALLERY SWINGING 1/2 DOORS WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE COURT.
6. Plaintiffs & defendants shall sit at designated tables.
7. Do not approach the bench or go beyond counsel tables without permission from the Court.
8. Witnesses should remain outside the courtroom until called. When called witness will go to the jury box.
9. The Court has “authority to control decorum in the courtroom...” UMCR 18. The Court will exercise its authority on a case-by-case basis in the best interest of public health while respecting its fundamental duty to maintain an open courtroom.

SO ORDERED, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.



Shirlene Lowry, Chief Magistrate