

Debbie Sirmans
Clerk of Superior Court
Brantley County

Christy Corbitt, Chief Deputy Clerk
Sherry Dixon, Deputy Clerk

Anna Lee, Deputy Clerk
Nita Barwick, Deputy Clerk
Kayla Chancey, Deputy Clerk

September 18, 2020

Honorable Therese Barnes, Clerk
Supreme Court of Appeals of Georgia
Suite 572
244 Washington St., S.W.
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

Honorable Therese Barnes,

Enclosed is an Order-Declaration of Judicial Emergency signed by Brantley County Superior Court Chief Judge, Honorable Dwayne H. Gillis.

I have been instructed to notify you immediately by sending you a copy of this Order.

Respectfully,



Debbie Sirmans
Clerk of Superior Court
Brantley County

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BRANTLEY COUNTY
WAYCROSS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

DEBBIE SIRMANS
Clerk of Superior Court
Brantley County, Georgia

SEP 17 2020

TO THE JUDGES AND CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MAGISTRATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF PROBATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT

By *Debbie Sirmans*
Clerk
Time 4:25 P

ORDER-DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a judicial emergency exists in this county having been so declared by the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, and this Court;

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the undersigned that persons working regularly in the Brantley County Courthouse may have been exposed to COVID-19 and are experiencing symptoms and some personnel have had close contact with them.

WHEREAS, despite the implementation of and adherence to designated public health and safety guidelines, the Probate Judge of Brantley County has tested positive for Covid-19. Pursuant to the CDC and Department of Public Health rules and after consultation with the DPH it has been determined that those who have had "close contact" as defined by the CDC and DPH should self-quarantine for 14 days from the last close contact with an infected person. This requirement has resulted in the Judges and Staff of the Probate Court being in self-quarantine. The Probate Judge and entire staff (2) are quarantined pending Covid-19 testing and actual medical conditions. The judge and her staff work extremely close together and the chance of exposure is high. Based upon the foregoing, the Brantley County Probate Judge made the decision to close the Brantley County Probate Court as of 12:00 (noon) on September 17, 2020. On September 17, 2020 the Brantley County Probate Judge advised the Court of her decision and requested a Declaration of Judicial Emergency for the Brantley County Probate Court. This Court finds that said request is reasonable and prudent and is in the best interest of the public and all courthouse personnel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, the Probate Court of Brantley County, Georgia shall be closed beginning Thursday, September 17, 2020 at noon through and including Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 11:50 p.m. at which time this judicial emergency shall end or until further order of the court. Provided this order is not extended or otherwise modified, the Probate Court will re-open for normal operations on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon the reopening of the Probate Court, social distancing will be strictly enforced; and the use of appropriate sanitizers by all occupants of the building or the general public on entering the building.

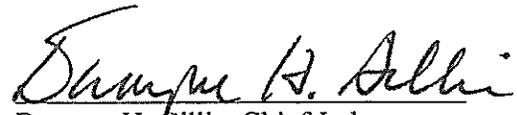
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-62, all court deadlines, time schedules or filing requirements are hereby suspended, tolled, or extended for the duration of the judicial emergency as noted above; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Sheriff or his/her designee shall post a copy of this notice on the courthouse doors, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Superior Court, or her designee, shall immediately notify the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Clerks of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court by sending them a copy of this notice and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, the County Manager, or his designee, shall post a copy of this notice and any subsequent modification or extension in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-63 by posting it on the county website or other appropriate public address system.

SO ORDERED this 17th day of September, 2020.


Dwayne H. Gillis, Chief Judge
Superior Court of Brantley County

Debbie Strimans
Clerk of Superior Court
Branley County
P.O. Box 1067
Nahunta, Georgia 31553

Return Service Requested

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Honorable Therese Barnes, Clerk
Supreme Court of Appeals of Georgia
Suite 572
244 Washington St., S.W.
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

2020 SEP 29 AM 11:53
THERESE S. BARNES
CLERK

SUPREME COURT
OF GEORGIA
RECEIVED

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