

NEWS RELEASE

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Friday, March 13, 2020

SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY

Atlanta Judicial Circuit Issues an Order of Judicial Emergency

All jurors and grand jurors are cancelled for the next 30 days

ATLANTA – The Atlanta Judicial Circuit has issued an order declaring a judicial emergency in Fulton County. Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, no jurors or grand jurors should report, and no jury trials will be held for thirty (30) days. Also, non-essential hearings will not take place during these 30 days, unless they can be conducted by video or teleconferencing. Parties or attorneys in any non-essential matters should contact the chambers of the judge assigned to their case if they have any questions and/or need help to ensure their compliance with the order.

At this time, the Courthouse will remain open to conduct essential judicial operations and matters. The definition of non-essential hearings will include any family or civil matters where someone is not in danger and criminal matters where the defendant is out on bond. Essential matters include but are not limited to the following types of hearings: first appearance, family/domestic violence, temporary protective orders, plea and arraignment, etc.. For specific questions regarding whether you are required to report to the Courthouse for your matter, please contact the chamber of your assigned judge or agency requiring your presence in Court. The Superior Court of Fulton County intends to keep the public updated on this judicial emergency via its website, www.fultoncourt.org, and the Fulton County website, www.fultoncountyga.gov.

Among the Atlanta Judicial Circuit's highest priorities are the safety and welfare of members of the public in our facilities, staff from partner agencies, and court employees. We want to assure everyone that the Courts and Fulton County Justice Partners are taking precautions to maintain a safe and healthy court environment for all in light of Novel

Coronavirus (COVID-19). As a circuit, we are continuously reassessing how best to address the developing situation. The Courts are committed to seeing that we meet our mission of providing justice to all during this challenging time.

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