

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS  
NORTHERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN RE: Declaration of                   \*  
          Judicial Emergency           \*           Standing Order of the Courts  
   \*  
Date: April 24, 2020                 \*  
   \*

**ORDER EXTENDING DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

Due to the ongoing statewide emergency regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, on April 6, 2020, The Hon. Harold Melton, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia issued an Order Extending the March 14, 2020, (Amended) Order Declaring Statewide Judicial Emergency, which would have expired on April 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., until Wednesday, May 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise further modified or extended. At this time, the Pandemic is still ongoing and medical experts continue to recommend social distancing and limiting gatherings to 10 persons or less.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Order Extending Declaration of Judicial Emergency in the Northern Judicial Circuit (Elbert, Franklin, Hart, Madison and Oglethorpe Counties) which would have expired on May 13, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. is extended until Sunday, May 31, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise further modified or extended.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve Chief Justice Harold D. Melton of the Supreme Court of Georgia with a copy of this Order, such service to be accomplished via email to Tee Barnes, the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Georgia, at [barnest@gasupreme.us](mailto:barnest@gasupreme.us);

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that anyone having an essential matter, as defined in the Judicial Emergency Order dated March 14, 2020 (Amended) that requires a personal appearance in open Court is strongly encouraged to wear personal protective equipment, mask/gloves.


**Declaration of Judicial Emergency  
Northern Judicial Circuit**

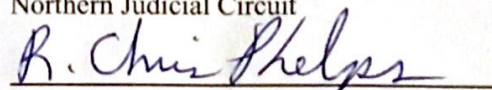
This recommendation includes not only litigants, but attorneys as well. If anyone is running a fever, coughing or has been exposed to someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 or experiencing the symptoms of COVID-19, he/she should notify the Court prior to the hearing date for further instructions. Also, persons entering the courtroom shall exercise social distancing.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the undersigned shall notify and serve a copy of this Order on the judges and clerks of all courts sitting within the jurisdictions affected and on the clerks of the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court, such service to be accomplished through reasonable means to assure expeditious receipt; and

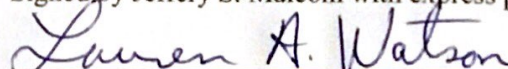
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the undersigned shall give notice of the issuance of this Order to the affected parties, counsel for the affected parties, and the public. Each Sheriff shall post a copy of this Order on the public notification site in their Courthouse.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020 at 12:15 pm. in Hartwell, Hart County, Georgia. This Judicial Emergency Order shall terminate on May 31, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise modified, amended, or extended.

  
Jeffery S. Malcom, Chief Judge  
Superior Courts  
Northern Judicial Circuit

  
R. Chris Phelps, Judge  
Superior Courts  
Northern Judicial Circuit

Signed by Jeffery S. Malcom with express permission

  
Lauren A. Watson, Judge  
Superior Courts  
Northern Judicial Circuit  
Signed by Jeffery S. Malcom with express permission

**Declaration of Judicial Emergency  
Northern Judicial Circuit**