

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE CITY OF SNELLVILLE

STATE OF GEORGIA

As a result of the viral pandemic currently existing, and in contemplation of the potential transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19, and for the protection of the court users, general public and staff, the Court hereby enters this Order, which shall remain in effect until June 12, 2020 at 11:59 P.M., unless extended due to the existing pandemic by Chief Justice Harold Melton:

1.

Only parties, counsel and witnesses should be allowed to enter the court room and adjacent areas. Non-essential members (children, spouses, or other family members) will only be allowed at the time the parties' case is called and shall remain in their vehicle until the case is called. If a party has a childcare issue or other family issue said party shall notify the Court as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made. The Court encourages that, when possible, arrangements for child care be made before coming to Court.

2.

Defendants 21 and under may have one parent or guardian attend the court hearing with them.

3.

All parties entering the building will be required to wear a face mask. You must bring your own face mask. The court will not be able to provide one for you. Please notify our office if you are unable to obtain a face mask for your court hearing. If you do not have a face mask you are still required to report to court on your court date.

4.

Hand sanitizer will be provided. Hard surfaces in the courtroom area will be wiped down before and after all court proceedings.

5.

Upon arrival, as you approach the court entrance you will notice six feet distancing markers on the ground. Please adhere to these markers, waiting patiently for the line to move. Limited

people in the building at a time in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. Social distancing of at least six (6) feet shall be maintained at all times.

6.

The courtroom, common areas, and the lobby of city hall will be measured out to reflect 6' social distancing marks by tape and/or orange cones. Officers will also be present to direct visitors of the procedures that will be taking place. Visitors are directed to the officer's directions and adhere to the signs and markings that will be set in place.

7.

The temperature of all people entering the building will be taken prior to entry into the building with a non-touch thermometer. Entrance will be prohibited with regard to anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher. Such person will be given contact information for court officials.

8.

All people entering the building may be asked and shall be required to answer the following questions: (1) Have you traveled to any high risk areas (or outside of the State of Georgia) in the last fourteen days; (2) Have you had contact with anyone confirmed to have COVID19 (coronavirus) in the last fourteen days; (3) Have you experienced a fever of 100 degrees or greater; difficulty breathing; or persistent cough in the last fourteen days; or are you experiencing fever of 100 degrees or greater; difficulty breathing; or persistent cough now. If the answer to any of these questions is yes then said person will not be allowed in the building and their Court date can be reset or other arrangements can be made.

9.

In order to ensure proper social distancing, courtroom seating shall be arranged so that no less than six (6) feet of distance is maintained at all times.

10.

All visitors who are members of a vulnerable population (such as persons over 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, such as by chemotherapy for cancer or other conditions requiring such therapy) 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.

11.

If for any reason a person does not feel comfortable attending their court hearing or are not feeling well please call our office so that we can explore available options.

12.

At the time of check in, each defendant will provided with a Waiver of Rights form and possible other documentation related to their case. All documents should be completed (signed and dated) prior to your case being called. This will minimize physical contact with surfaces.

13.

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 and Georgia constitutions and applicable statutes and court rules. These guidelines are intended to allow all of us to move forward together by practicing social distancing and other daily habits to reduce our risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. Please remember: to practice social distancing (specifically, staying 6 feet away from others when you must go into a shared space); frequently wash hands or use alcohol-based (at least 60% alcohol) hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available; wear face coverings (mask or cloth); avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth; stay home when sick; and avoid frequently touched objects and surfaces.

14.

The Clerk of Court is directed to post this Order at the entrance of the courthouse and on the Court's website.

SO ORDRED this 2nd day of June, 2020.



Chief Judge, Jammie Taire