

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF HALL AND DAWSON COUNTIES, GA.  
NORTHEASTERN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED

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IN RE: Extension of Judicial Emergency \*  
Date: February 8, 2021 \*

CHARLES BAKER, CLERK  
SUPERIOR-STATE COURT

BY \_\_\_\_\_



**ORDER EXTENDING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

On March 13, 2020, the undersigned entered an *Order Declaring Judicial Emergency* for both Hall and Dawson Counties due to the ongoing threat of transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19. Georgia has been in a continual statewide judicial state of emergency since March 14, 2020, with the most recent extension having been entered by Chief Justice Harold D. Melton on February 7, 2021. Today's order renews and extends a local emergency.

The COVID-19 disease continues to pose great risk to public health. Despite the implementation of and adherence to safe operating guidelines in this circuit, a number of courthouse employees have tested positive for COVID-19.

Therefore, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, the Honorable Chief Judge Kathlene F. Gosselin of the Superior Courts of Hall and Dawson Counties DOES HEREBY DECLARE AND EXTEND the current Judicial Emergency in the Northeastern Judicial Circuit. Because this emergency continues to substantially endanger or infringe upon the normal functioning of the judicial system, this declaration affects all courts and clerk's offices in the circuit.

Accordingly, IT IS THE ORDER of the undersigned that all courts, litigants, parties, visitors, and members of the public shall continue to abide by the Safe Operating Guidelines, remote hearing policies, and all other terms previously laid out in the *Order Declaring Judicial Emergency* entered on July 15, 2020.

**This Judicial Emergency shall terminate on March 10, 2021, at 11:59 p.m., unless otherwise extended, rescinded, amended, or superseded.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to O.C.G.A § 38-3-63: That the Sheriffs of Hall and Dawson Counties shall post this Order on their public notification site and in the courthouses; That the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve Chief Justice Melton with a copy of this Order, such service to be accomplished via email to Tee Barnes, the court's clerk; That the undersigned shall immediately notify and serve a copy of the order on the judges and clerks of all courts sitting within Hall and Dawson Counties.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021 at 1:22 a.m./p.m.



Hon. Kathlene F. Gosselin

Chief Judge, Northeastern Judicial Circuit