

Northeastern Judicial Circuit

JASON STEPHENSON COURT ADMINISTRATOR P.O. BOX 1435 GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA 30503 770-532-1895 DAWSON AND HALL COUNTIES

For Immediate Public Release September 29, 2022

MANDATORY CIVIL EFILING IN EFFECT OCTOBER 1, 2022 FOR HALL COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT AND HALL COUNTY STATE COURT

Effective October 1, 2022, Hall County Superior Court and Hall County State Court will require all civil filings to be electronically filed with the Clerk of Court. No paper filings will be accepted unless falling under specific exceptions included in the new administrative order. While attorneys have been required by Georgia law to effle since 2019, this week's local order will extend the same mandate to self-represented litigants.

"We continue to move toward an electronic, and more accessible, court system, and have seen positive benefits to the efiling mandate for attorneys over the last several years," stated Charles Baker, Clerk of Courts. "We look forward to assisting Hall County residents with this transition."

To use efiling, litigants must have a valid email address and set up an account with the Clerk's service provider accessible at www.PeachCourt.com. The service is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and eliminates the need to visit the Courthouse during business hours. Other benefits include access to file stamped copies, instant service of new filings, online case tracking, and proof of submission.

Free computer terminals are available in the lobby of the Clerk's ground-floor office during open hours, and the nominal add-on fee for electronic access is waived for anyone filing at these public terminals.

Persons who are exempt from the new requirement include individuals who are incarcerated and without legal representation, and self-represented litigants who certify that they cannot obtain an email address. Documents being filed under seal, such as adoptions, and protective orders should also continue to be filed in person at the Clerk's window.

For more information, or to review the new order, please visit the Northeastern Judicial Circuit website at www.nejc.org.