

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF THE
COWETA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

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KYEMESHIA T. GIBSON
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA

In re: Order Declaring Judicial Emergency

Date: April 9, 2020

**ORDER IMPLEMENTING CHIEF JUSTICE HAROLD D. MELTON'S
ORDER DECLARING A STATEWIDE JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

Under O.C.G.A. 38-2-60, the Honorable Chief Justice Harold D. Melton extended the order declaring judicial emergency until May 13, 2020. The reissued order provides in part as follows:


To the extent feasible, courts should remain open to address essential functions, and in particular courts should give priority to matters necessary to protect health, safety, and liberty of individuals. Essential functions are subject to interpretation; however, some matters that fall into the essential function category are: (1) where an immediate liberty or safety concern is present requiring the attention of the court as soon as the court is available; (2) criminal court search warrants, arrest warrants, initial appearances, and bond reviews; (3) domestic abuse temporary protective orders and restraining orders; (4) juvenile court delinquency detention hearings and emergency removal matters; and (5) mental health commitment hearings.

FOR CARRYING OUT THE ORDER OF THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- All criminal jury trials and grand jury proceedings are cancelled for April and May;
- Criminal and civil non-jury hearings will only proceed on essential matters to be determined by the assigned Judge;
- Child Support Recovery hearing dates for April and May are cancelled;

- Existing orders for child visitation should be obeyed.

SO ORDERED this 9 day of April, 2020.



Chief Judge John Simpson
Coweta Judicial Circuit
State of Georgia