



Magistrate Messenger

CORONAVIRUS MAGISTRATE COURT UPDATE



FULTON COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT

Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk

Inform, Engage, Empower  Our Community



Inform

Court Processes and Training Sessions:

The Magistrate Court continues to proudly serve Fulton County during this time of crisis. Our 8 full-time and 15 part-time judges work alongside our Chief Magistrate Judge, Cassandra Kirk, to ensure our court is not just a place to uphold the law, but also to help those in Fulton County understand their rights and our processes. We encourage you to view our [visual information center](#), and join us in our community outreach and special programs. Let us know how we can continue to better serve you through our [feedback link](#). It is our honor to assist our community and supporters like you.

Engage

Maggie the Magistrate Court ChatBot:

Welcome, Maggie! You will notice that at the bottom, right hand corner of our website, we have a Magistrate ChatBot. Maggie came online in early 2020 and has become invaluable in communicating with community members as the Court transitions to being virtual during this coronavirus pandemic. Through Maggie, we have been able to answer questions and help Fulton County citizens see which calendars are being heard during the Judicial Emergency. Maggie runs 24/7. Tickets are established if Maggie cannot answer a question you ask so that a Magistrate Court employee will assist you.

Empower

Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk Suspends Evictions in Fulton County during Judicial Emergency:

The Magistrate Court of Fulton County and the Fulton County Marshal have coordinated efforts to ensure that all evictions are suspended until the limited Judicial Emergency, declared by Chief Justice Harold Melton of the Georgia Supreme Court, is lifted. All evictions scheduled during the Judicial Emergency are temporarily suspended. The Magistrate Court of Fulton County will continue to provide constitutionally required, essential services. Click [here](#) to read full press release.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We look forward to continuing our community contact. Before the COVID-19 shelter in place, our Community Outreach moments included: Legal Clinics, Free Private Wedding Ceremonies, Misdemeanor Mental Health Court Graduations, CBD Townhall Discussion, Statewide Judicial Training on Gangs with the GBI, Intern Program, as well as Bike Drive, Coat Drive and Toy Drive for the Holiday Season. [Click](#) to read more.

COVID-19 Court Update

The Magistrate Court of Fulton County has been working diligently through the Judicial Emergency declared by Chief Justice Harold Melton of the Georgia Supreme Court due to the ongoing development of the COVID-19 pandemic to transition the court to virtual. Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk, in collaboration with the Fulton County IT and Magistrate Court Director Timothy Ezell, have been hard at work finding ways to get the critical court calendars transitioned over to virtual options for the safety of our Magistrate Court staff and community members. Please continue to check www.magistratefulton.org website for updates as we continue to assess our operations in light of ongoing developments of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Click [here](#) for latest Emergency Alert updates on the Magistrate Court of Fulton County.

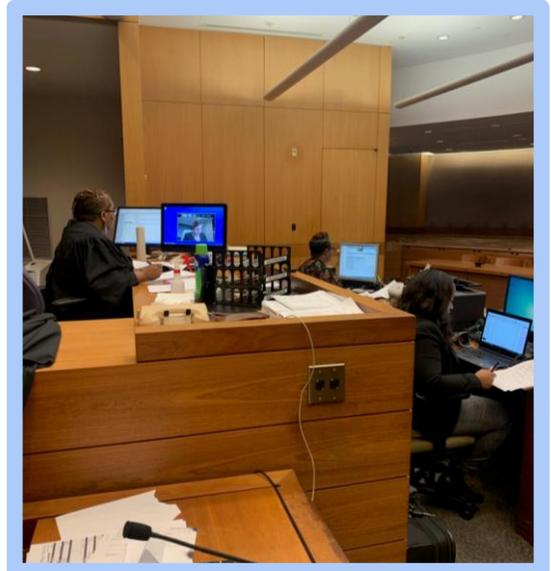


During this Judicial Emergency, the Magistrate Court of Fulton County will provide constitutionally-mandated, essential services, specifically applications for search and arrest warrants through electronic interface as well as First Appearance hearings six days a week.

Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk suspends all hearings and services listed below in the Magistrate Court of Fulton County:

Landlord-Tenant (Evictions), Abandoned Motor Vehicles, Warrant Applications, Copy of Charges, Personal Property Foreclosures, Small Claims, Child Abandonment, Environmental, Garnishment, Trover, Post-Judgement Hearings, Misdemeanor Mental Health Compliance and Weddings.

Absent additional direction from the Chief Justice, the calendars listed above will resume on May 13, 2020, pursuant to an Amended Order of Business. **All matters on the calendars above are postponed until the Judicial Emergency is lifted.**



Self-Help Resources:

- ✚ Visual Information Center www.magistratefulton.org/205/Magistrate-Court-Visual-Information-Center
- ✚ Housing Court Assistance Center www.magistratefulton.org/241/Housing-Court-Assistance-Center
- ✚ Atlanta Legal Aid Society www.atlantalegalaid.org (404) 524-5811
- ✚ Georgia Legal Services program www.glsp.org (404) 206-5175
- ✚ Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation www.avlf.org (404) 521-0790