

Chief Judge:  
John D. Gass

*Catoosa County Magistrate Court*  
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Judges:  
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Stephen B. Keith  
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March 23, 2020

### **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

On March 14, 2020, Chief Justice Harold Melton of the Georgia Supreme Court issued an Order Declaring a Judicial Emergency based on the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. This Order is to apply until April 13, 2020 unless extended.

This order in part limits court operations to only those matters which are deemed **essential**.

The public should avoid coming to the Magistrate Court offices during the period of time covered by this Order. However, the Court recognizes that some types of proceedings are essential to be handled on an emergency basis. In order to continue meeting the needs of the citizens of this county and taking into consideration the nature of the current pandemic, the following shall apply during the pendency of the judicial emergency:

The following matters are deemed **essential** and **shall be processed**:

#### **Essential matters:**

- Warrants
- Bond hearings
- Search warrants

The following matters are deemed **non-essential** during the pendency of the judiciary emergency.

**Non-Essential Matters:**

- Pre-Warrant Applications
- Civil filings (Statement of Claims, Dispossession Warrant and Summons, Garnishments)
- Writ of possessions (setouts)

All civil matters can be E-Filed or mailed to our office. Please keep in mind that civil filings will not be processed nor served during the pendency of the judicial emergency.

Thank you for your consideration

John D Gass

Chief Magistrate Judge