SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

FILED
Administrative Minutes
March 27, 2020
Thérèse S. Barnes,
Clerk/Court Executive
SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

IN RE: SUPERIOR COURT RULES

For the duration of the statewide judicial emergency declared by the Chief Justice and any modifications and extensions thereof, the following provisions of the Uniform Superior Court Rules are hereby clarified and/or amended as follows:

Uniform Superior Court Rule 9.1, which provides for the use of telephone conferences in pre-trial and post-trial proceedings in civil cases, also provides for the use of video conferences to the extent it provides for telephone conferences. All such conferences shall comply with applicable constitutional requirements.

Uniform Superior Court Rule 9.2 (C) is hereby waived to the extent that it imposes notice requirements beyond those ordinarily required by law or rule for proceedings conducted in-person.

Uniform Superior Court Rule 9.2 (E) (4) is hereby waived to the extent that it requires that the public have access to the location at which a judge is presiding over a video conference, provided that:

(a) Notice shall be given to the parties and the public that a proceeding will occur wholly by remote video conference;

1. Such notice may be given by a website posting or similar means.

2. In the event a court provides public access to a livestream of all proceedings to which the right of open courts applies, the livestream may constitute such notice, provided that notice of the livestream itself is provided through the websites of one or more of the following: the court; the clerk of court; the Council of Superior Court Judges; and the local bar association(s), if any.

(b) If a party or a member of the public objects to the remote proceeding, the court shall sustain or overrule such objection prior to conducting the proceeding; and

(c) The public shall be given an opportunity to view the remote video conference, such as by joining the video conference (although unable to participate), through a livestream, or through substantially similar means.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA
Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.
Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

, Clerk