

NOTICE

MANDATORY SUPERIOR AND STATE COURT CIVIL E-FILING EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 1, 2019

RE: Legislation Change: SB 407, (§O.C.G.A. 15-6-11 and §15-7-5)
Passed in the 2018 Legislative Session, Effective Date: January 1, 2019

This bill makes it **mandatory** for all **superior court** and **state court civil** cases and/or pleadings to be electronically filed through a certified approved e-file portal. There are a few case types that are excluded from the mandatory provision and shall remain paper original filings such as pauper's affidavits, bond validations, sealed cases/pleadings, adoptions, sealed depositions, ex parte, temporary protective orders (TPO), stalking and in camera cases.

As of January 1, 2019, No paper original cases shall be accepted in any Clerk of Courts Office throughout the State of Georgia. The only exceptions are cases listed above and cases filed prior to January 1, 2019. By law, paper original cases filed prior to January 1, 2019 can remain a paper filed case until the case is completed.

The law further states, that the Clerk of Court shall setup a public access terminal (PAT) in their office for attorneys & pro se litigants to upload their cases and/or pleadings to the e-file portal. *By using the Clerk's Office PAT the portal fees are waived. A credit card usage fee will be applied, unless you choose the "pay by cash option" upon check-out. **All filing cost and service cost remain the same.**

*By law when e-filing through the Peach Court Portal from the convenience of your home or office computer you are charged a one-time fee for electronically filing, (portal fees: \$30.00 for the 1st 10 filings and \$5.00 for each additional forward), plus a credit card fee will apply, (3.5 percent plus a 30 cent payment services fee per transaction will be applied). **All filing cost and service cost remain the same.**

During regular office hours the PAT will be available with unlimited access for an Attorney or pro se' litigant, to be allowed to view and download any pleading or document electronically filed in connection to the civil action in which he or she is counsel of record or pro se litigant.

You may visit www.peachcourt.com to read more about peachcourt and e-filing.

My office is here to serve the public effectively and efficiently to the best of our skill and knowledge and within the boundaries that the law permits.

Thank You,

Linda Dixon Thompson

Clerk and Court Administrator
Liberty County
Superior Court, State Court, Juvenile Court, and Magistrate Court