



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

FILED
Administrative Minutes
June 22, 2021
Thérèse S. Barnes
Clerk/Court Executive
SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
Thérèse S. Barnes

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.
The following order was passed:

**IN RE: EXTENDING AND CLARIFYING TEMPORARY
AMENDMENTS TO VIDEO CONFERENCING RULES FOR THE
SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, MAGISTRATE, MUNICIPAL, AND
PROBATE COURTS.**

On March 27, 30, and 31 of 2020, this Court issued orders temporarily clarifying and amending video conferencing rules of the Superior Courts, Juvenile Courts, Magistrate Courts, Municipal Courts, and Probate Courts. Those temporary amendments are set to expire with the expiration of Chief Justice Melton's Order Declaring Statewide Judicial Emergency. Those temporary amendments are hereby extended and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2022.

In addition, those rules as temporarily clarified and amended are hereby additionally clarified to allow any proceeding not otherwise allowed to be conducted by video conference so long as the judge and all the parties consent, and public access is ensured as required in said rules.

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.

Thérèse S. Barnes, Clerk



Supreme Court of Georgia

Jane Hansen, Public Information Officer
330 Capitol Ave, SE
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-651-9385
hansenj@gasupreme.us

COURTS MAY CONTINUE REMOTE PROCEEDINGS

Atlanta, June 22, 2021 – Chief Justice Harold D. Melton announced today that even though the Statewide Judicial Emergency is due to expire at the end of this month, Georgia’s courts may continue to conduct proceedings using video and other remote technology under rules initially adopted during the judicial emergency.

In consultation with trial courts, the Supreme Court has amended the uniform Superior, Juvenile, Probate, Magistrate, and Municipal court rules regarding remote proceedings. In March 2020, shortly after the Chief Justice declared a Statewide Judicial Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court amended those rules to allow more flexibility to conduct court proceedings using remote technology. Those 2020 amendments are due to expire at the end of the statewide emergency, which earlier this month the Chief Justice announced was likely to occur at the end of this month. Today’s amendments extend the greater remote flexibility until June 30, 2022. The order additionally clarifies that any proceeding not otherwise covered by the rule can be conducted by video conference as long as the judge and the parties consent and public access is ensured.