

How Georgia Courts are Conducting Cases during Covid-19

STATE, including Probate, Courts (Georgia):

Courts are open for “essential” functions only. All deadlines in all cases in state courts are suspended. Metro-Atlanta courts have imposed certain restrictions on civil and non-essential matters, including:

	Jury Trials	Hearings	Other Matters and Probate
Cobb	Suspended thru 4/30; jurors excused	Suspended until 5/13	Ex-parte temp protective orders + temp restraining orders continue Probate: emergency guardianship or conservatorship petitions ONLY (no processing timeframe)
DeKalb	Superior and State: Suspended thru 5/13; jurors excused	Superior: Conducted via video conference thru 5/13 State: Suspended thru 5/13	Probate: emergency guardianship or conservatorship petitions ONLY (30-45 processing days)
Fulton	Suspended thru 5/13; jurors excused	Suspended thru 5/13, unless hearing can be conducted via video/teleconference	Probate: accepting all probate, guardianship and conservatorship petitions BY MAIL ONLY (no processing timeframe)
Gwinnett	Suspended thru 5/13; jurors excused	Suspended thru 5/13	Probate: emergency and medical consent guardianship petitions ONLY (no processing timeframe)

FEDERAL, including Bankruptcy, Courts (Georgia):

Deadlines are NOT suspended in any cases. District courts are open, with restrictions to entry, including.

	Jury Trials	Other Matters and Bankruptcy
Northern District of GA	Continued thru 5/15; no jury summons thru 5/15	Individual judges decide on holding hearings, conferences, and non-jury trials Bankruptcy: All hearings now via phone and will be recorded until further notice. Hearings already scheduled thru 4/10 will be rescheduled for phone hearings via new notices. <i>Note:</i> Rome and Gainesville clerk’s offices are closed; use drop box for paper filings; Atlanta and Newnan clerk’s offices are open for paper filings. The court has extended the General Order granting 60 days for attorneys to file Verified Papers regarding “wet signatures,” until further notice.
Middle District of GA	Continued thru 5/15	Individual judges decide on holdings hearings, conferences, non-jury trials unless otherwise ordered by presiding judge Bankruptcy: Albany Division: All hearings will be held via phone through 4/16. Hearings previously scheduled through 4/10 will be rescheduled for telephone hearings via new notices.
Southern District of GA	No jury trials in civil cases at least thru 4/30	Individual judges are handling each case on a case by case basis at least thru 4/30 Bankruptcy: All hearings via telephone and will be recorded until further notice. All previously scheduled hearings will receive new notices for phone hearings. Clerk’s office is open but limited, with drop-box encouraged for paper filings.

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