## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF TROUP COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

## IN RE: STATEWIDE JUDICIAL EMERGENCY; COURT DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020; MENTAL HEALTH COURT DATES FOR 2020; PROTOCOLS FOR CALENDARING CIVIL CASES; NOTICE OF REMOTE HEARNIGS

## **ORDER REGARDING JUDGE BAKER'S 2020 CALENDAR**

In accordance with the Orders Declaring Statewide Judicial Emergency of March 14, 2020, April 6, 2020 and May 11, 2020, issued by Chief Justice Harold Melton, Georgia Supreme Court, and the Coweta Circuit Order issued by Chief Judge John Simpson on March 16, 2020, and extended on May 21, 2020 the court hereby orders as follows:

 The prior Superior Court calendars published for Judge Baker are revoked and replaced with the calendar filed with Judge Simpson's May 21, 2020 order. Specifically, Judge Baker's Troup County Superior Court Civil non-jury dates for the remainder of 2020 are as follows:

> June 1, 15 and 29 July 13 August 10 and 24 September 10 and 21 October 5 and 19 November 2, 16 and 30 December 14 December 10 – civil preemptory calendar call

- 2) To continue to follow safety guidelines concerning the COVID-19 health emergency, this court will schedule every case on the calendar with a specific time for a hearing.
- 3) In order for a civil case to be placed on a calendar, the parties must first schedule a joint conference call with Judge Baker through her legal assistant, Tonya Elder, 706-298-3626. During that conference call all efforts will be made to narrow issues and make a best estimate as to the number of witnesses and the time needed for the hearing. After said teleconference, the matter may be placed on a calendar and given a specific starting time. If the matter will take more than two hours, it may require a specially set date and time. Pro se cases will be handled in the same manner when possible and may be set at a time specially set aside for pro se matters.
- If one party cannot be reached for the pretrial conference or otherwise refuses to participate in the pretrial conference, said case may be put directly on the calendar by Judge Baker.
- 5) A Rule Nisi signed by Judge Baker with the date and set starting time for all hearings shall be filed with the clerk for a case to be set.
- Temporary Protective Orders and Stalking Protective Orders will be placed on the calendars at 9:00 am of the civil court days.
- 7) Troup County Mental Health Court shall be held on the following dates: June 3, 17; July 1, 15; August 5, 19; September 2, 16 and 30;
  October 14, 28; November 11; December 2, 16.

## **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:**

Pursuant to the Supreme Court's temporary order entered March 27, 2020 regarding the Superior Court Rules, as well as Uniform Superior Court Rule 9.2, many of this Court's civil

non-jury hearings may be conducted remotely. To the extent allowed by Rule 9.2 as amended, said emergency cases may be conducted using ZOOM teleconferencing.

Any party who objects to their case appearing before the Court via teleconference should notify the Judge's office. To the extent that there are any teleconference hearings, any member of the public who wished to observe remote proceedings should email Tonya Elder at telder@troupcountyga.gov for instructions.

All safety precautions contained in Judge Baker's May 14, 2020 COVID-19 Safety Order shall be followed until further order of this Court.

So ordered this 22 day of May, 2020.

Nina Markette Baker Superior Court Judge Coweta Judicial Circuit