

DEBRA DEBERRY Clerk of Superior Court DeKalb County, Georgia

CONTACT:

Donica Kennon Public Information Officer 404.392.5124 dkennon@dekalbcountyga.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DeKalb County Clerk of Superior Court's Office Updating Emergency TPO Process

Decatur, GA – DeKalb County Superior Court Clerk Debra DeBerry, Chief Superior Court Judge Asha Jackson, Chief Magistrate Judge Berryl A. Anderson, DeKalb Sheriff Melody Maddox, key staff and advocates joined efforts to develop an online TPO application process that honors social distancing while keeping everyone safe and operating online with the Supreme Court's Emergency Order issued on March 14, 2020. During this statewide judicial emergency, customers can visit <u>www.dksuperiorclerk.com/tpo</u> for detailed instructions on Temporary Protective Orders and Ex parte Hearings.

Clerk of Superior Court Debra DeBerry made the decision to offer socially distant services to flatten the curve of COVID-19 by migrating to a virtual environment beginning March 23rd.

Chief Magistrate Judge Berryl A. Anderson, said "during this Judicial Emergency, we have worked collaboratively to complete a monumental task of providing safe online services, which include video emergency hearings, to victims in need of Family Violence or Stalking Protective Orders. This process could have taken months, but we rolled up our sleeves, combined creative efforts among departments and made it work in mere hours. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish. That is the DeKalb County way."

Non-emergency services, including passport applications, notary commissions, trade names and adoptions, will be available April 13.

For further inquiries, please visit the Contact Us link at www.dksuperiorclerk.com . All inquiries will be responded to within 24 hours.

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About the Clerk's Office

Debra DeBerry has been the Clerk in DeKalb County, Georgia since March 2011. The Clerk of Superior Court is a constitutional office charged by the Georgia Constitution with the care, custody, and control of DeKalb County's records. Additionally, in Georgia, the Clerk of Superior Court is responsible for the Board of Equalization legislated to hear appeals on property values and other exemptions. Judicial and Real Estate documents are filed, docketed, recorded, maintained, and archived in an expeditious manner and always available for public access. The Clerk's Office archives same-day Real Estate recording, turnaround of judicial documents within minutes, and processes are in place to reduce fraud.