

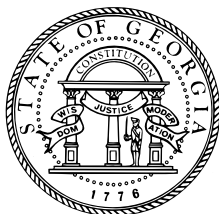
RICHARD M. COWART
CHIEF JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 806
VALDOSTA, GEORGIA 31603-0806
TELEPHONE: 229/671-2680
FACSIMILE: 229/245-5308

BRIAN A. MCDANIEL
JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 2227
MOULTRIE, GEORGIA 31776-2227
TELEPHONE: 229/616-7445
FACSIMILE: 229/616-7447

JAMES L. PRINE
JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 678
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799-0678
TELEPHONE: 229/228-6276
FACSIMILE: 229/225-4128

GREGORY A. VOYLES
JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 1349
VALDOSTA, GEORGIA 31603-1349
TELEPHONE: 229/333-5130
FACSIMILE: 229/245-5223

CATHERINE M. SMITH
JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 2037
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799-2037
TELEPHONE: 229/228-6370
FACSIMILE: 229/228-6369



State of Georgia
Superior Courts
Southern Judicial Circuit

BROOKS, COLQUITT, ECHOLS,
LOWNDES & THOMAS COUNTIES

May 31, 2024

FRANK D. HORKAN
SENIOR JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 2227
MOULTRIE, GEORGIA 31776-2227
TELEPHONE: 229/616-7445
FACSIMILE: 229/616-7447

HARRY JAY ALTMAN, II
SENIOR JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 678
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799-1734
TELEPHONE: 229/228-6276
FACSIMILE: 229/225-4128

JAMES E. JIM HARDY
SENIOR JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 2037
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799-2037
TELEPHONE: 229/228-6370
FACSIMILE: 229/228-6369

AMBER E. HANBERRY
COURT ADMINISTRATOR
POST OFFICE BOX 2227
MOULTRIE, GEORGIA 31776-2227
TELEPHONE: 229/616-7474
FACSIMILE: 229/616-7447

TO: All Attorneys in the Southern Judicial Circuit
Clerks of the Superior Court, Southern Judicial Circuit

FROM: Chief Judge Richard M. Cowart
Judge Brian A. McDaniel
Judge James L. Prine
Judge Gregory A. Voyles
Judge Catherine M. Smith

RE: **New Procedures for *Ex Parte* relief in Domestic Cases**

In an effort to promote Judicial Economy and reduce the length of time in which parties may be limited to access of children or marital assets, the following procedures for *Ex Parte* relief will be implemented, effective immediately upon publishing:

- Before a Judge will consider making an *Ex Parte* appointment, the attorney must send to the Judge's office **verified** pleadings in which to be heard, as well as the proposed *Ex Parte* order for review.

- **Before arrival** at the appointment before the Court, the attorney must contact the Clerk's office for the first available hearing date(s) in which the matter can be set on the signing Judge's calendar. This date, once decided, must be written or typed on the order PRIOR to presentation before the Court.

- **All** proposed *Ex Parte* orders, prior to presentation before the Court, must have the following clause typed or written in: **This *Ex Parte* Order shall expire sixty (60) days after the signature date below or on the date of the temporary hearing listed herein, whichever date is later, unless further Order of the Court is entered to the contrary.**

- If the temporary hearing date falls outside of the 60 day window, the Judge's office will set an interim follow-up date and method of their choosing, to include all interested parties (ie: conference call, WebEx meeting, in-chambers meeting, etc.).

- Any and all interim issues that arise between the order date and follow up date or temporary hearing date must be directed to the Judge's office who signed the order.