

Judge Frank Barger Suspends Non-Emergency Probate Court Proceedings and Public Operation

March 15, 2020 - Madison County, Alabama – To protect the citizens of Madison County and Court Staff and to comply with the order issued by the Alabama Supreme Court, Judge Frank Barger will suspend all non-emergency hearings and proceedings before the Probate Court of Madison County and close all Court operations to the public effective Monday, March 16, 2020. The Madison County Courthouse has been closed to all public access by the Madison County Commission effective the same date. The court will operate as outlined below until further notice.

Offices Closed/Services Suspended Until Further Notice:

- The Probate Office and all ancillary locations including the Courthouse Record Room and Madison County Records Center will be closed to physical public access
- All direct services including passport applications and notary applications are suspended

Access to records:

- Available records may be accessed using our online portal at: cotthosting.com/almadisonexternal/LandRecords/protected/SrchQuickName.aspx
- Requests for Probate Court records or records held at the Madison County Records Center which are not available online should be emailed to probate@madisoncountyal.gov or a request made via telephone to 256-532-3330. Requested records will be supplied as soon as possible via email or placed in U.S. Mail. Standard fees will apply.

To record documents:

- Documents for recording will only be accepted via U.S. Mail or electronically via one of our approved vendors.

Approved vendors for electronic filing:

Simplifile	800-460-5657	www.simplifile.com
CSC / Corporation Service Company	855-200-1150	www.erecording.com
ePN / eRecording Partners	888-325-3365	www.GOePN.com

- Business formations and dissolutions can be filed electronically with the Secretary of State at: www.alabamainteractive.org/sos/welcome.action
- Questions related to recording documents should be emailed to probate@madisoncountyal.gov or by calling 256-532-3330.

Court Proceedings:

- All scheduled non-emergency hearings and proceedings are suspended until further notice – these hearings and proceedings will be rescheduled.
- The Probate Court will only accept petitions and set hearings for involuntary commitments and emergency guardianships.
- Petitions for involuntary commitment and emergency guardianship will be accepted via email to probate@madisoncountyal.gov - the original documents should be presented to the court at the scheduled hearing. A member of our staff will be available during business hours to coordinate hearings for involuntary commitment and emergency guardianship.
- For questions regarding involuntary commitment and emergency guardianship please call 256-532-3330.

Elections:

Election officials, Judge Frank Barger, Sheriff Kevin Turner, and Circuit Clerk Debra Kizer are currently reviewing election operation and management plans. An update on election operation and management plans for the 2020 Primary Election Runoff will be provided no later than Noon on Tuesday, March 17.

Probate Staff:

Only essential Probate Court Staff will report for duty to carry out the work outlined above. All staff will be contacted by the Chief Clerk of the Madison County Probate Court with instructions.

Other Information:

Please keep in mind that certain members of Probate Court Staff might not be available as we will only be operating with essential members of our team. We will respond to all inquiries as soon as reasonably possible. Please call our general number, 256-532-3330, for all matters or inquiries. We will do our best to provide services for any matter that falls within the above parameters. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may be of assistance to you. It is our great honor and pleasure to serve the people of Madison County.

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