

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DEKALB COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

23AP1042

Due to a ruptured pipe that resulted in extensive water intrusion and damage to the Judicial Tower of the DeKalb County Courthouse located at 556 North McDonough Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030, in-person access to the entirety of the Judicial Tower is prohibited until further order of the Chief Judge of the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit. Due to health and safety concerns, and to allow repairs to proceed as expeditiously as possible, authorization to enter the Judicial Tower will only be granted in limited circumstances. All persons who enter the Judicial Tower shall be escorted by the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office into and out of the Judicial Tower and shall not be left unattended. There shall be an exception made for the return of Grand Jury indictments. That exception is:

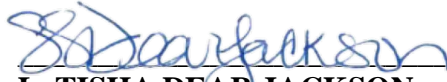
The Probate Court Courtroom on the 1st Floor of the Courthouse will remain unlocked and open to the public so that Grand Jury indictments can be returned in open court. The District Attorney's Office is to notify the Presiding Judge and the Sheriff's Office in advance of when indictments will be returned, and any member of the public seeking to enter the Courthouse at or immediately prior to that time should be informed that they are free to observe the return of the indictments but that they will not be able to access any other portions of the Judicial Tower. They should then be allowed to enter if they wish and directed to the proper courtroom. No permission is needed for members of the public wishing to observe, and none should be turned away.

All in-person proceedings as well as all jury trials shall be suspended until April 3, 2023.

All offices in the Judicial Tower shall operate remotely until further order of the Chief Judge, and all services rendered by those offices shall be provided virtually and remotely. Please contact each specific office for information regarding their specific operations. **Any person that needs to retrieve items from an area in the Judicial Tower shall do so by 5:00 P.M. on January 13, 2023.**

This Order shall supersede all prior Administrative Orders regarding the Judicial Tower.

SO ORDERED this 11th day of January, 2023.


LaTISHA DEAR JACKSON
Chief and Administrative Judge
Superior Court of DeKalb County
Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit