

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED IN OFFICE
CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT
FULTON COUNTY

OCT 28 2024

STANDING ORDER FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO
JUDGE COY J. JOHNSON, JR.

CLERK'S INITIAL

[Handwritten Signature]
12:35 PM

The following rules and procedures will govern all Dependency, Delinquency, and CHINS cases before Judge Coy J. Johnson, Jr. Absent express permission from the Court or further Court order, no exceptions or waivers to the requirements set forth herein are allowed.

Self-represented parties ("Pro-se Parties") as well as represented parties and their counsel (hereinafter "Parties") are reminded that they are also required to comply with the Standing Order, Uniform Juvenile Court Rules ("U.J.C.R."), and when applicable, the Uniform Superior Court Rules ("U.S.C.R.").

1. CONTACTING THE COURT

When communicating with the Court, Parties are required to ensure that the opposing party or counsel, as appropriate, is copied on all communications. Probation officers, guardians ad litem, mediators, and other court staff must copy counsel for the Parties on all communications regarding matters pending before this Court.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Courtesy copies of efiled motions▪ Motions▪ Responses to motions▪ Proposed orders▪ Requests for continuance▪ Hearing requests▪ Transfer requests▪ Requests for early termination of supervision <p>Contact Judicial Staff Attorney Danielle Whittaker at:</p> <p>Danielle.whittaker@fultoncountvga.gov</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Requests for hearings▪ <u>Marked</u> exhibits for virtual hearings▪ Zoom links for virtual hearings▪ Interpreter requests▪ Inmate transport requests▪ Notice of conflict▪ General case management inquiries▪ Apply for court-appointed attorney <p>Contact Judicial Case Manager Yolanda White at:</p> <p>Yolanda.white@fultoncountvga.gov</p>
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Communication with the Court should be conducted via email. All Parties **MUST** be copied on emails to the Court. Modification of any deadline, status conference, or hearing date requires approval of the Court, even if all Parties consent to the change. Requests that the Court extend or change a deadline, status conference, or hearing date should be made as early as the need becomes apparent.

2. ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

All attorneys are required to file a signed entry of appearance within 48 hours after being retained, except those representing the State or appointed by the Court. An entry of appearance shall conform with U.J.C.R. 16.3.

3. LEAVES OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS

Leaves of Absence Applications are DENIED if the Parties have received prior notice either orally or in writing that this case is scheduled to appear on the Court's calendar during the period of the requested leave. See U.S.C.R. 16.2.

If the requested leave complies with the requirements of U.S.C.R. 16.1, does not exceed thirty days, the Parties have not been given oral or written notice that this matter will be scheduled on the Court's calendar during the requested leave period, opposing counsel does not file a written objection within ten (10) days with copies to the Court and all counsel of record, and the Court does not respond within ten (10) days denying the request, then the leave is GRANTED. A leave of absence does not relieve a Party of the obligation to comply with filing or response deadlines for discovery, motions, briefs or pleadings which may arise during the period of the leave.

4. CONFLICT LETTERS

Any conflicts must be substantiated with a timely conflict letter in full compliance with U.S.C.R. 17.1 which letter is filed with the Clerk's office and received by the Court at least seven days prior to the date of conflict pursuant to U.S.C.R. 17.1(B). All conflict letters must be copied to opposing parties. Parties are not excused from the calendar unless or until they have received confirmation from the Court. In the event any matter listed in the conflict letter is disposed of prior to the end of the calendar, counsel shall immediately notify all Parties and the Court and proceed with the remaining cases absent good cause shown pursuant to U.S.C.R. 17.1(C).

5. REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

Requests for continuances must be made in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing. Continuances are not granted, and Parties are not excused from a calendar unless they receive written confirmation from the Court which may be provided via email.

6. DISCOVERY

Discovery shall follow the provisions outlined in O.C.G.A. §15-11-170, O.C.G.A. §15-11-264 and O.C.G.A. §15-11-541. The Court is to be immediately notified if application is made for a written order granting discovery so that it may arrange for its expeditious resolution.

7. MOTIONS

Motions in ~~Limine~~, Motions to Suppress, and any other dispositive motions should be made in writing and filed no later than five (5) business days prior to the hearing being conducted unless scheduled for a ten-day delinquency adjudication.

All other Motions shall be filed in compliance with the deadlines set forth in the Official Code of Georgia, U.J.C.R. and U.S.C.R. as applicable.

8. WRITTEN REPORTS

All written reports, including reports prepared by probation officers, GALs, and behavioral health clinicians must be distributed to all parties no later than five (5) business days prior to the hearing being conducted.

8.1 Predisposition Investigation Report

Following the adjudication of a delinquent child, a written predisposition investigation report shall be prepared by the probation division pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-11-590.

8.2 Guardian ad Litem Report

The guardian ad litem shall provide written reports to the Court and the parties on the child's best interests and providing recommendations pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-11-105(c)(15).

9. MEDIATION

The parties may schedule and attempt mediation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-11-22. The attorneys, parent/guardian(s), and guardian ad litem, if any, must be included in scheduling any mediation sessions. The parties will be allowed to choose the timing and manner of their efforts; however, they should complete such efforts no later than five business days prior to the hearing being conducted.

9.1 Abeyances

Signed consent abeyances in delinquency proceedings may be submitted to the Court for consideration at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled hearing date. If granted, the hearing will be reset to a later date for compliance with the conditions.

10. PETITIONS TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

Any Petition to Withdraw as Counsel must be in full compliance with U.S.C.R. 4.3. The Petition shall state that the attorney has given written notice to the client and that ten days have expired since notice, that there has been no objection, or that withdrawal is with the client's consent.

11. VIRTUAL HEARINGS

All virtual hearings will be held in conformity with U.J.C.R. 12.2 and conducted via Zoom. It is the responsibility of the Parties to ensure that the Zoom software needed to participate in the virtual hearing is downloaded prior to the hearing. The parties may request a Zoom link and/or meeting ID to participate in a virtual hearing 24 hours prior to the scheduled hearing.

All participants must be able to see, hear, and communicate by video, and the video quality must be adequate to allow participants to observe each other's demeanor and nonverbal communications.

A record of the virtual hearing will be made by the Court and can be requested by the Parties in the same manner as all such similar proceedings not conducted by Zoom. The parties are not permitted to record the proceedings.

The Court may order the personal appearance of the Parties in any juvenile court hearing.

12. INMATE TRANSPORT ORDERS

It is incumbent upon counsel for all parties to notify the Court as soon as practicable whenever their client, who is scheduled to appear for a hearing, is incarcerated or detained in state or federal custody so that arrangements may be made for their appearance.

SO ORDERED this 28th day of October, 2024.



JUDGE COY J. JOHNSON, JR.
Juvenile Court of Fulton County