



OFFICE OF  
**CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT, MUSCOGEE COUNTY**

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GOVERNMENT CENTER

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 11, 2022**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

The Muscogee County Superior Court Clerk's Office, effective Tuesday, July 12, 2022, is open for public business. The Criminal Public Division of the Clerk's Office was closed for a two-week period due to a COVID outbreak and a judicial emergency order issued by Chief Superior Judge Gil McBride. During this period of the Office being closed to the public, the Superior Court Clerk's Office worked overtime to reduce the backlog of Inmate Court Packets. We have met all statutory deadline requirements on Inmate Court Packet processing, complied with all statutory obligations, and are working to maintain compliance with a decreased staff and increased workload. "I am so proud of my staff, who worked hard to process the backlog," said Forté.

We are particularly grateful to other court clerks around the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit that have provided resources, advice and guidance during this difficult time, specifically with regard to addressing the backlog.

We are forever indebted to Stacy K. Haralson, Clerk of Superior & Juvenile Courts, Harris County; President, Superior Court Clerks Council of GA; and President Elect, Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia, who has worked lock in step with Clerk Forté and her staff to oversee the successful completion of Inmate Court Packets. We identified several cases impacting numerous inmates that lacked required documents, and are working with various law enforcement agencies and the judiciary to obtain the required documents. With assistance from Mrs. Haralson and other Circuit Clerks, we continue to upgrade and improve ways that our Office can assist law enforcement stakeholders and the circuit-wide Superior Court Judiciary with expediting missing documents to our Office.

Lastly, we would like to express our gratitude to Superior Court Chief Judge Gil McBride with his assistance during our recent COVID-19 outbreak by restricting public access via Judicial Order; City Manager Isaiah Hugley for promptly approving temporary funding to facilitate

intensified processing of Superior Court business; and to Sheriff Deputy Lt. Rice for his understanding, assistance and continued professional courtesy extended to Clerk Forté and her staff, dating as far back as 2018, at the beginning of this administration.