

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF BEAUFORT)
IN THE PROBATE COURT
SECOND AMENDED ORDER
COURT OPERATIONS IN
RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS

FILED
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PROBATE COURT
BEAUFORT COUNTY SC

In order to provide for direct access by the public to Court records and the conduct of in-person hearings before the Court where hearings via remote communications technology may not be feasible, I find that that this Court's Second Amended Order [for] Court Operations in Response to COVID-19 Virus should be and is hereby amended to state the following measures which are effective immediately and until further notice:

1. No public access to the Beaufort County Probate Court offices is permitted, except by appointment for access to this Court's records room;
2. All filings by mail and in the drop box at the Beaufort County Courthouse entrance will be quarantined for 48 hours and then file stamped with the date of receipt by mail or delivery to the drop box, as the case may be;
3. All fees must be paid by mail or delivery to the drop box in a sealed envelope, subject to the 48-hour quarantine.
4. New applications for Marriage Licenses will be accepted by mail and (if marriage to occur within 60 days) by appointment for drive-up application at Hilton Head Office only. Arrangements may be made by calling the Court's offices at 843-255-5850.
5. Hearings (including emergency hearings) will continue to be held by remote communications technology (videoconference or telephone conference), where the Court determines that format is appropriate and feasible for all parties. Where the Court determines, on a case-by-case basis, that an in-person hearing in the courtroom is necessary and appropriate, the same may be held subject to safety guidelines authorized by the South Carolina Supreme Court with respect to in-person hearings during the ongoing pandemic.
6. Probate Court staff will continue to be available by telephone, email, fax, regular mail, and fax.

This Order will be amended or vacated as necessary and appropriate in the circumstances as they develop.



Kenneth E. Fulp, Jr., Probate Judge

Beaufort, South Carolina

November 6, 2020