

**** COVID-19 NOTICE ****

The Probate Court is currently closed to the public, but as of March 19, 2020, the Judges and the Staff are working in the office. **All of the dates herein are subject to extension.**

In-Person Estate Administration Appointments:

All previously scheduled appointments have been re-scheduled to a later date. If you have not talked to an estate paralegal about the re-scheduling, please call the Court at 803-684-8513.

If you come to the Court without an appointment, you will be provided with instructions and a packet of forms as to how to begin an estate administration. You will take these instructions and forms with you.

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.

The forms may be returned either by mail or email. If the building remains open, you may also return them in person and leave them in a container in the lobby. We hope that we will be able to schedule an appointment for you after April 6, 2020.

If you wish to file estate administration documents for an estate already opened, please send by mail or email. If the building remains open, you may drop them off in the lobby.

Estate and Guardianship/Conservatorship (GC) Administrative Filings

If you believe there is an emergency, please contact the Court at 803-684-8513.

If you have an ongoing GC administration, please send your Estate filings and your GC Annual Reports and Accountings and any fees due by mail. You may also drop them in a container in the lobby.

Marriage Licenses

Unless you are getting married before April 2, 2020, please **do not** come to the Court to apply for a marriage license before **April 2, 2020**. If necessary to apply before April 2, 2020, only you and your co-applicant may come in and you must provide proof that your ceremony is scheduled prior to April 2nd (wedding invitation, letter from minister or notary, vendor invoices, etc.). No other applications will be taken or licenses issued until after April 2, 2020.

If you need a copy of your marriage license, you may request it by mail on or on-line. See other information on the Probate Court webpage.

Trials/Hearings:

The Court has numerous trials/hearings scheduled, many with multiple parties, some lasting for several hours. **Unless the South Carolina Supreme Court and South Carolina Court Administration close the courts, these hearings and appointments will go forward. No other**

hearings or trials will be scheduled prior to May 15, 2020, except for certain supplemental involuntary commitment hearings which are already on the calendar through July 2020.

Involuntary Commitments:

All involuntary commitment proceedings, including supplemental proceedings, will go forward as scheduled, whether at Piedmont Medical Center, Keystone, Catawba Mental Health Center, or the Courthouse.

The Court is handling all new emergency detention orders and petitions for judicial admission remotely.

You will need to contact Catawba Mental Health Center at 803-327-2012 or call the Community Crisis Hot Line at 1-833-364-2274 for an emergency detention order. Call 803-327-2012 to initiate a mental judicial commitment proceeding.

You will need to contact Keystone at 803-324-1800 to initiate a chemical judicial commitment proceeding.