

Macon-Bibb Municipal Court
COURT PROCEDURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

DEAR DEFENDANTS WITH UPCOMING COURT DATES:

Ticket fine and payment information are available online at www.maconbibb.us/municipal-court/ via Municipal Court's webpage; or by calling **478-257-5012 to pay by phone**.

If you wish to dispute the violation, it is your right to appear in court. If you have already paid your citation, your appearance is not mandatory. For many traffic violations, a court appearance is not mandatory.

Examples of violations that **are a mandatory appearance** include:

No Insurance

Suspended Registration

Driving While License Suspended

Driving While Unlicensed

Permitting Unlicensed Person to Drive

Resisting/Interfering with Officer

Hit and Run

Reckless Driving

Speeding 40+ Over Limit

Theft by Shoplifting

Possession of Marijuana

Possession of Drug Related
Objects

If you are not sure whether you must appear for court, please contact the **clerk's office: (478) 751-7154** or court@maconbibb.us.

If you do not have an attorney and would like information about resolving your case without a court appearance, contact the **Solicitor's office at 478-621-6572** or municipalcourtprosecutor@maconbibb.us. There is no cost to you for contacting the Solicitor and you may be able to accept a plea recommendation to resolve your case without appearing in court.

The Court has taken certain health and safety measures to limit the transmission of COVID-19. In response to the threat posed by the COVID-19 virus, Macon-Bibb Municipal Court has implemented changes to court hearing procedures.

Please be advised of the following:

- When you arrive for your court hearing, you will check in at the main entrance; 2nd floor of the Bibb County Courthouse, 601 Mulberry St, Macon, GA 31202. A Court Security staff member will ask that you provide your name; then give you a court time as to when it is your time to meet with the Prosecutor and Judge. You will be asked to return to your car and wait in the parking lot until that return time.
- Only the Defendant listed on the citation will be allowed to enter the court, with their attorney if applicable. Individuals under 21 years of age may be accompanied by one parent/guardian.

- **No friends, family members, or children may enter the courtroom.** If you encounter a childcare issue, please contact the clerk's office prior to your hearing. Continuances will be granted.
- Defendants who are 65 years of age or older and are not comfortable coming to court due to increased risk may contact the clerk's office prior to the hearing date. Continuances will be granted.
- **Any Defendant who is ill will not be allowed to enter the courthouse.** If you do not feel well, please stay at home and call the clerk's office at 478-751-7154. If necessary, you may email court@maconbibb.us so that you can be contacted. If you are currently infected with COVID-19 or in quarantine due to exposure to a person with COVID-19, is a member of an immune-compromised or medically fragile population (or living in a household with someone who is immune-compromised or medically fragile) due to COVID-19. Continuances will be granted.
- **Masks must be worn when appearing in the courtroom for any reason. If you are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons, please contact the court at (478) 751-7154 or by email at Court@maconbibb.us and let us know that you are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons. We will provide you with contact information for the Solicitor's Office so that you may determine if your matter can be handled without the need to attend court or a remote hearing may be scheduled with the agreement of the Solicitor's Office.**
- Defendants who require an interpreter for court proceedings please contact the clerk's office at 478-751-7154 or court@maconbibb.us prior to your court date. (**Los acusados que requieran un intérprete, comuníquense teléfono número de 478-751-7154 inmediato para obtener más información por favor**).
- All Defendants and staff must always observe **at least six feet of social distance**.

In summary: **Please arrive for your court hearing at the time noted on your hearing notice as the court will be operating on a staggered hearing schedule. If your report time is not printed on your notice, please report to the Courthouse no later than 8:00 a.m. to obtain your report time. When you arrive for your court hearing, you will check in at the main entrance of the Bibb County Courthouse located at 601 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31202. The main entrance is located on the 2nd Floor. Court Security will require that you complete the necessary court screening process, will obtain your name, and ask which court you are reporting to. They will verify what time you are scheduled to report. If you have arrived too early, you will be told what time you are to report and asked to leave the Courthouse and return at your scheduled time.**

If a report time is not printed on your notice, you may contact Municipal Court via email for your report time at 478-751-7154 and/or court@maconbibb.us, no later than 24 hours prior to the date of your hearing, Monday through Friday 8 am – 5 pm only, to obtain your report time.

Sincerely,

Clerk and Staff of Macon-Bibb Municipal Court