

NOTICE FOR VIRTUAL PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

Preliminary Hearings will begin January 2021

Due to the increase in COVID cases and the inability to conduct in-person hearings safely, this is a temporary measure to protect the health of all and ensure the constitutional rights of people accused of a crime.

Hearings will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays upon request. One hearing per time slot (9 am/11 am/1 pm / 3 pm).

How to request a Hearing:

- 1) Contact the District Attorney's Office (DA) to discuss a Consent Bond.
 - 2) File a Motion requesting a Preliminary Hearing via email to magistratecrtclerks@dekalbcountyga.gov, make sure to cc the DA. An email request will suffice as a Motion for this purpose.
 - 3) Include warrant numbers in the email.
 - 4) Hearings will be scheduled approximately two weeks after the request is made. A notice with a Zoom link will be emailed to the parties. Please carefully review the Rule Nisi for detailed instructions.
- By requesting this hearing, Defendant acknowledges that they will have the right to confront any witnesses virtually only, not in person.
 - Attorneys may use Jail's video visitation system to meet with clients before the hearing.
 - Hearing will be broadcast via Court's YouTube channel.
 - Defendant will be in quiet location to participate in the hearing.
 - Judge will allow counsel to speak with clients/witnesses in breakout rooms before and during the hearing when needed.



DeKalb County Magistrate Court
<https://dekalbcountymagistratecourt.com/>