

MARRIAGE LICENSING PROCEDURES DURING PERIOD OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

We are in a period of both judicial and health emergencies which require additional time and safeguards in order for the Probate Court of Chatham County to issue marriage licenses.

See the Court's **website** at:

<https://courts.chathamcountyga.gov/Probate/MarriageLicenses>

1. Marriage licenses will be issued **only** by **appointment**.
2. A couple must **submit** copies of all necessary documentation, including a properly completed license application,¹ **before** we can make your **appointment**. This process will **likely** take **more** than one day.
 - a) The documentation, including the properly completed application, is to be submitted either by:
 - 1) email to the Court, sending it to wwwilliamson@chathamcounty.org;
or
 - 2) putting it in a special "drop box" located outside of Probate Court on the fifth floor of the Courthouse.
3. We do **not** permit personal visits to the Probate Court office for marriage license purposes **until** all documentation has been correctly submitted and you come for your appointment. Contact us by phone (912-652-7264, option 2) or by email (wwwilliamson@chathamcounty.org) with your questions.
4. What documentation you must submit depends upon your situation. Look to our website for all the documents which must be submitted, but below are *some* of them:

Previous marriage: if your previous marriage ended:
in death, attach a copy of former spouse's death certificate;
in divorce, attach a signed copy of your divorce decree.

Premarital education: if the couple have completed premarital education (which will reduce your license fee), attach a completed copy of the premarital education certificate of completion (found on website).
The professional who conducted the premarital education will have to complete and sign this form **before** you can submit it.

Proof of identity and age: you will have to show proof of your identity and age, which can include your driver's license, passport, or other official

¹ A license application form in fillable PDF format which can be completed, saved, and emailed back to the Court, is on the Court's website. Do **not sign** the application **until both** parties appear at court for their application appointment.

government identification, or certified copy of birth certificate or valid armed forces identification, accompanied by photo identification.

For submission by email, you may send a legible photo of the document.

For submission by drop box, leave only a *copy* of the document, not the original.

We will review your submitted application and other documentation, and let you know – by email or phone – if anything else is needed. If everything is complete, we will email or call you to schedule an **appointment** for **both** of you to come together to the court to finish the process. Bring with you your *original* photo identifications.

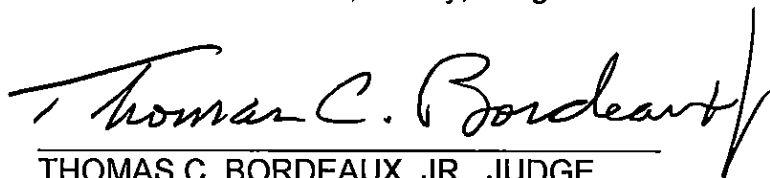
Payment: At your appointment, you will be required to *pay* your license fee in *exact cash*.

Your license fee *with* premarital education certification: \$26.00

Your license fee *without* premarital education certification: \$66.00

We regret the upheaval in these processes and we will do our best to deliver to the public the best service possible under these difficult and, frankly, dangerous times.

Thank you.



THOMAS C. BORDEAUX, JR., JUDGE
PROBATE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY