March 18, 2020 Release Number: 4396



Charleston County Government Coronavirus / COVID 19 Information

In an effort to protect the safety of our employees as well as that of the general public, the Charleston County Auditor, Register of Deeds (ROD), and Treasurer will be closing their offices to the public beginning Thursday, March 19.

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All three offices will continue to be available by phone and email, the Auditor's office additionally has a web based chat function available. Citizens that need to file documents with the ROD may still drop off filings on the first floor of the County Office Building, located at 101 Meeting Street. The Treasurer encourages residents to utilize the online e-check feature at https://sc-charleston.publicaccessnow.com/ to make their tax payments. That service is free of charge.

Auditor's Office Contact Information:

auditorsoffice@charlestoncounty.org 843-958-4200 843-948-4222 (fax) Live Chat available: <u>Auditor.charlestoncounty.org</u>

"During this period of uncertainty, it is important that my office remain functional but also safe," said Peter Tecklenburg. "We are committed to doing the work of the Auditor's office as efficiently as we can with all the resources available to us."

Treasurer's Office Contact Information:

treasurer@charlestoncounty.org 843-958-4360 843-958-4370 (fax)

"We appreciate your patience as we navigate these uncertain times together," said Treasurer Mary Tinkler. "We'll be working diligently behind the scenes to ensure that questions are answered and that the systems are working for you as smoothly as is possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns."

Register of Deeds Office Contact Information:

We are encouraging the public to use the designated Register of Deeds drop-off location (on the first floor of the O.T. Wallace Building located at 101 Meeting Street, Charleston) until further notice. All documents should be sealed in an envelope with the correct contact information. Checks only please.

If you are requesting personal and business research on property and or other property concerns, please call the Register of Deeds office at 843-958-4800 or email <u>mgray@charlestoncounty.org</u>

Alternative Early / Late Entry for Abstractors

- 7:15 a.m. 8:15 a.m. / 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
- Open to abstractors (list of abstractors must be provided to the security officers) Must be on the list and show proper ID to enter the building.
- A county employee must be present in the ROD office during the allotted time. (Not a ROD employee).
- All abstractors must "Wear Gloves" while in the office and they must wipe/clean there area or space after usage. Abstractors must provide their own gloves.

"I will continue to serve the citizens of the Charleston area in the smartest and most efficient way in light of the health crisis," said Register of Deeds Michael Miller. "I must also protect the employees who serve the public daily."

Charleston County Clerk of Court:

The Charleston County Clerk of Court's Office will begin limiting general public access to their office on Thursday, March 19, 2020 until further notice. A drop box will be located in the lobby of the Charleston County Judicial Center for all nonemergency filings and the office will be accepting filings by mail. Emergency filings and payments may still be done in person.

For Family Court purposes, emergency filings include but are not limited to: DSS emergency Protective Custody, Juvenile Detentions, Bench Warrants, and Emergency Petitions for Orders of Protection from Domestic Abuse.

For questions, please call 843-958-5000 for Circuit Court or 843-958-4400 for Family Court. You may also email any questions to <u>clerkofcourt@charlestoncounty.org</u>

The Charleston County Citizens Information Line is available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Citizen Info Line: **843.746.3900** Spanish Line: **843.746.3909**

SCDHEC Care Line: **1-855-472-3432** Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for questions about COVID-19 MUSC Health: Virtual Care 843-792-7000 or <u>http://campaigns.muschealth.org/virtual-care/index.html</u> Roper St Francis Virtual Care: <u>http://rsfh.com/virtualcare</u>

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

Visit our website: <u>www.charlestoncounty.org</u>



- Prepared by the Public Information Office -