

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS OF THE
CORDELE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA
FOR THE COUNTIES OF BEN HILL, CRISP, DOOLY, AND WILCOX

STANDING ORDER 2018-01

ORDER REGARDING NOTICES OF APPEAL AND MOTIONS FOR NEW TRIAL

WHEREAS, the Superior Courts of the counties comprising the Cordele Judicial Circuit have a long standing desire to ensure that the Clerks of the Superior Courts assemble a defendant's official record for appellate review without inordinate delay upon his or her timely filing of such notice of appeal or a motion for new trial, and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Supreme Court and the Georgia Court of Appeals have repeatedly admonished criminal defense lawyers, prosecutors, and trial judges to address and prevent inordinate and unjustified post-trial, pre-appeal delays. See, e.g., *Morris v. State*, No. S17A1402, 2018 WL 1143792 (Ga. Sup. Ct. March 5, 2018) (nearly 10-year delay); *Veal v. State*, 301 Ga. 161 (2017) (18-year delay); *Brockman v. State*, 292 Ga. 707 (2013) (18-year delay); *Surry v. State*, 340 Ga. App. 8 (2016) (nearly 6-year delay); *Jackson v. State*, 339 Ga. App. 313 (2016) (nearly 9-year delay); *Robinson v. State*, 334 Ga. App. 646 (2015) (16-year delay).

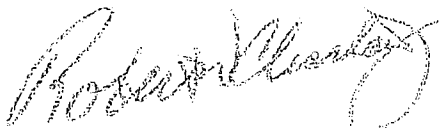
WHEREAS, the Georgia Supreme Court has given directives to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia to submit for approval a proposed Uniform Rule of Superior Court to address issues of inordinate delay. *Owens v. State*, No. S17A1905, 2018 WL 1144860 (Ga. Sup. Ct. March 5, 2018).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Clerks of Superior Courts for Ben Hill, Crisp, Dooly, and Wilcox Counties furnish the presiding judge with all notices of appeal or motions for new trial at the time of receipt and filing of said notices and motions.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk furnish the presiding judge with all notices of appeal and motions for new trial having been previously filed with the Court but having not been docketed by the appellate court for review.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerks of Superior Courts for Ben Hill, Crisp, Dooly, and Wilcox Counties shall enter this Order upon the minutes of the Court.

SO ORDERED, this 26th day of April, 2018.



ROBERT W. CHASTEEN, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURTS
CORDELE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT