

IN THE STATE COURT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA

v.

Defendant

* CASE NO.: _____

* _____

* CHARGE(S): _____

* _____

* _____

PLEA IN ABSENTIA

I, the Defendant in the above-styled case, desiring to enter a plea of *Guilty or nolo contendere* (no contest) with regard to the following charge(s): _____, do hereby certify as follows:

Because of my particular circumstances, it would be an undue hardship for me to appear in person to enter this plea before the Court. I hereby request and consent that my case can be disposed of in my absence, and I hereby waive my presence, or agree to appear in court via video conference.

It is in my best interests to enter a *Guilty or nolo contendere* plea in this case, and I wish to enter this plea *in absentia* (without having to appear in person before the Court).

I have consulted with my attorney in this matter and have had enough time to talk with my attorney about my case. I feel my attorney has done everything they could to help me in this case. I am satisfied with the legal services provided by my attorney in this case.

I understand that by entering this plea, I am giving up the following rights:

- The right to a trial in front of a judge or a judge and jury;
- The right to be presumed innocent;
- The right to confront witnesses and question them at a trial;
- The right to call witnesses and present evidence on my behalf;
- The right to testify on my own behalf, should I choose to do so, at a trial;
- The right to examine all physical and documentary evidence against me;
- The right to remain silent;
- The right to appeal to a higher court except in limited circumstances; and
- The right to require the State to prove its case against me beyond a reasonable doubt.

Having these rights in mind, no one has made any threats or promises, nor has anyone coerced me to enter this plea. I am making this plea freely and voluntarily.

This the _____ day of _____, _____.

Defendant's Signature and Printed Name
Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Email: _____

Defendant's Attorney's Signature and Printed Name