

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

STATE OF GEORGIA, : CASE NO.: _____
v. :
Defendant. : CHARGES: _____

PLEA IN ABSENTIA

I, the Defendant in the above-styled case, desiring to enter a plea of Guilty or *nolo contendere* (no contest) (circle which choose) with regard to the following charges: _____, 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 may 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 interest to enter a Guilty or *nolo contendere* plea (circle which choose) in this case, and I wish to enter this plea *in absentia*, without having to appear in person before the Court.

I understand that I have a right to have an attorney represent me in this case, and if I could not afford an attorney, the Court would appoint an attorney who could assist me.

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 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 prove its case against me beyond a reasonable doubt.

I understand all of the things that an attorney could do to assist me in my case. I am representing myself and do not want an attorney to represent me and assist me with all of these things.

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

This the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Defendant's signature

Printed Name

Address (including city, state, and zip code)

Telephone number

Email