

# Georgia judge 'banishes' Elf on the Shelf from his county

## Vocabulary

to issue	tongue-in-cheek	to banish	to pose a risk
inexplicably	an order	to be in distress	to spring out

## Article

A Georgia judge issued a tongue-in-cheek order banishing the Elf on the Shelf - a recent Christmas tradition - from his county.

Cobb County Judge Robert Leonard tweeted the text of an order banishing the Elf on a Shelf, a small toy elf that reports the actions of children to Santa Claus, due to it posing "a risk to the emotional health and well being of Cobb's young children."

"Inexplicably, Elves sometimes move and don't move overnight. When these Elves do not move, it leaves our young children in a state of emotional distress," Leonard wrote.

The Elf on the Shelf sprang out of a 2005 children's book of the same name.

Leonard tweeted that his order was a "gift to tired parents." He explained that families who love their elves can feel free to keep them.

*Based on a Nov 8th, 2021 article from UPI (All Rights Reserved) [upi.com]*

## Quiz

1. What leaves young children in a state of emotional distress?
2. Was the judge's decision to banish the Elf on the Shelf serious?

## Conversation

A: Mummy! The Elf on the Shelf didn't move last night... (cry) ...

B: Oh! Err.... don't worry darling... he's probably just tired.

A: No mummy, it means I did something wrong and he's going to tell Santa!

B: Wait... ahh, Google says he's lost his magic and to put him in the fridge for a bit.

## Discussion

1. What do people in your country do in the run up to Christmas?
2. What toys, games, trends or beliefs were you excited about as a child?
3. How often do you use Google to check something? How was life before Google?