



JUDGE JOHN A. LONGORIA  
Administrative Judge  
Bexar County Courts at Law  
300 Dolorosa, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
(210) 335-2549

Date: March 13, 2020

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Bexar County officials have officially decided to suspend jury trials and jurors from March 16, 2020 until April 16, 2020, due to the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control declaring the COVID-19 a pandemic. Today, Mayor Nirenberg and the City of San Antonio have prohibited large gatherings of 500 people or more as a result of the first travel-related case of COVID-19 in San Antonio.

The County Court Judges are wholeheartedly in agreement with this decision to temporarily postpone the juror pool and to stop all jury trials during this time frame due to public health and safety concerns. It is my belief that if we take preventive action now and no one gets sick in our County system, then we have acted in the best interest of the public.

The County Court Judges are currently working on a plan for limiting the number of daily dockets and reducing the number of individuals coming into our courtrooms. Judges are also working on limiting the number of inmates transported from the jail to the courthouse by utilizing Audio-visual equipment, and/or by using our Auxiliary Jail court, which is located at the Bexar County Jail.

Weddings performed by Judges may be cancelled or postponed if any party has flu-like symptoms. Family members or children are strongly encouraged to remain away from the courthouse. We are also making necessary preparations in the event that any non-essential employees have to work remotely from home.

Any defendants or attorneys exhibiting any flu-like symptoms, shortness of breath with a cough, or who have a low grade fever (99.8 F or above), or have been in close contact with anyone who has either tested positive for COVID-19 or been self-quarantined, must contact the Court prior to their appearance to request a postponement of their case(s). Our Bexar County court website will be updated with daily dockets for each court, as well as the email addresses and phone contacts to our Court Coordinators at <https://www.bexar.org/1055/County-Courts>.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Dianne Garcia-Marquez, General Administrative Counsel, for the County Courts at 210-335-2628 or County Court Administration at 210-335-2115.

  
John A. Longoria, Judge