

SPECIAL ORDER

2021 APR 20 A 11: 37

STATE of TEXAS

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IN THE COUNTY COURTS
AT LAW OF BEXAR COUNTY

COUNTY OF BEXAR

1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14, AND 15

SPECIAL ORDER REGARDING IN-PERSON PROCEEDINGS
BEGINNING APRIL 19, 2021

The Judges of the Bexar County Courts at Law are all in unanimous agreement to follow the *Minimum Standard Health Protocols for Bexar County Court Proceedings* with some additional clarifications as follows:

- 1) Unless otherwise stated, the Judges of the County Courts at Law have opted to continue a preference for remotely-conducted proceedings.
- 2) In addition to the preference for remotely-conducted proceedings, the current schedule for limited in-person proceedings in the Bexar County Courts at Law conducting in-person hearings is as follows:
 - a. CC2—Motion hearings may be scheduled for Fridays.
 - b. CC4—Motion hearings may be scheduled for Wednesdays.
 - c. CC11—In-person hearings may be scheduled for Mondays.
 - d. CC12—In-person hearings may be scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - e. CC14—In-person hearings may be scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays
- 3) While most County Courts have opted to continue having remote proceedings, they will conduct in-person hearings only if there is good cause or necessity shown by the parties for an in-person proceeding;
- 4) The Court coordinator will provide advance notice to parties required to appear in-person;
- 5) All in-person dockets and hearings must be limited to no more than five (5) defendants set in the morning and (5) in the afternoon, along with their attorneys, Court reporter, Judge, and Deputy, to minimize the number of individuals in the courtrooms;
- 6) For Civil County Courts, a mix of remote and in-person hearings will be held, with a preference for remote hearings. Only necessary parties and/or counsel will be allowed in the courtroom, totaling no more than ten [10] individuals, including staff. Remote dockets will be held on Thursday and Friday mornings and afternoons and will consist of no more than twenty [20] individuals per docket.
- 7) All in-person hearings will focus on ensuring that adequate social distancing is maintained in each courtroom and the areas around each courtroom;
- 8) All individuals in the courtroom or court offices must wear face coverings and use appropriate hygiene methods;

- 9) Each of the County Courts at Law of Bexar County Texas will continue to abide by all Orders of the Texas Supreme Court and the guidance from the Texas Office of Court Administration in effect at the time of scheduling; and
- 10) This Order is subject to change based on the metrics of the COVID-19 virus transmission rate as provided by the local health authority.

SIGNED, ORDERED, AND ENTERED ON THIS ^{04/19/21} _____ day of April, 2021 by:

John Longoria

John Longoria (Apr 19, 2021 17:11 CDT)

Judge John A. Longoria
Administrative Judge