



FILED
MAY -3 2020
CLERK WOOD COUNTY TEXAS

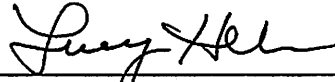
AMENDED TEMPORARY ORDER FOR THE WOOD COUNTY COURT
Effective May 8, 2020

In response to the State of Disaster declared by the Governor and after having received additional Orders of the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals of the State of Texas, the Wood County Court is further suspending all non-essential hearings until June 1, 2020, unless otherwise notified. This Order includes all jury trials, all non-jury trials, and other non-essential hearings in the areas of civil, criminal, and probate law. All essential hearings, which include mental health cases, temporary guardianships, temporary administrations, and guilty plea hearings for defendants who are in custody, and other hearings at the discretion of the Court will proceed forward; however, the Court has begun and will continue using Zoom, a virtual online service, to conduct most scheduled hearings. Non-essential hearings will be rescheduled at a later date.

The Court finds that it is in the best interest of public safety that the following changes to the handling of court proceedings be implemented until further notice:

1. In an effort to reduce the number of people appearing in the courtroom, the Court has begun to implement the option of appearing through Zoom, a virtual online service. Once a hearing has been scheduled, additional instructions will be emailed to the attorney(s) of record.
2. For any in-person hearing, those in attendance will be limited to those who are required to be there. Additional individuals will not be permitted at the hearing.
3. If an attorney or witness is sick, please do not come to the court. Please contact the Court Administrator, Catherine P. Clayton, at (903)763-2716 or cclayton@mywoodcounty.com to reschedule the hearing, unless the hearing can be conducted using an alternative method.
4. All requests for a hearing should be directed to the Court Administrator by email. Due to the current situation, your patience is greatly appreciated when it comes to how quickly the Court Administrator is able to respond to your correspondence.
5. With regard to mental health proceedings, all jury trials and the transport of patients to all hearings, including trials before the court and jury trials, is hereby suspended.

SIGNED and FILED with the County Clerk's Office on this 8th day of May, 2020.



LUCY HEBRON
Wood County Judge