



FILED FOR RECORD  
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COUNTY CLERK, WOOD CO TX

TEMPORARY ORDER FOR THE WOOD COUNTY COURT  
Effective March 24, 2020

In response to the State of Disaster declared by the Governor and after having received the Orders of the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals of the State of Texas, the Wood County Court is suspending all non-essential hearings until May 8, 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, and guilty plea hearings for defendants who are in custody, and other hearings at the discretion of the Court will proceed as scheduled. All other 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 is looking into implementing options to appear by telephone or video. More information on this option will be provided once it has been finalized.
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](mailto: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. Will prove ups and certain contested hearings are not suitable to be heard telephonically. More information on possible alternatives will be provided once they have been finalized.
6. 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.

7. If attorneys and litigants believe they have an agreed matter or non-evidentiary matter that does not require a record or hearing, they may submit said motion and a proposed order via eFile to the County Clerk's Office for consideration by the Court without an oral hearing.

SIGNED and FILED with the County Clerk's Office on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



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LUCY HEBRON  
Wood County Judge

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