

UPDATED COVID-19 MEMORANDUM FROM CCL #2

To: Lawyers, parties and witnesses in County Court at Law #2

From: Lynn Marie Johnson, Judge Presiding, County Court at Law #2

Date: 6/1/2020

Re: COVID-19 Case Management June 1, 2020 – TBA

Since the start of this pandemic, CCL#2 has changed its handling of criminal and civil dockets in accordance with directives from the Texas Supreme Court and OCA. See CCL#2's COVID-19 Management plan dated 3/20/2020.

Until further notice, the Court will follow the **Updated COVID-19 Memorandum dated 6/1/2020** set out below.

JURY TRIALS:

CCL2 Jury trials scheduled in June and July of 2020 are cancelled. Per OCA jury trials will resume in August of 2020.

CIVIL DOCKETS:

The Court will continue to use ZOOM for nonessential matters, unless an in-person hearing is needed and requested. Please see **Rules for Remote Hearings** on this Court's website.

Written submissions are permitted for MSJ or agreed Divorce/SAPCR prove-ups.

Contested matters (e.g. temporary orders, motions to enforce, bench trials, CPS adversary hearings, pro se prove-ups) will be in-person.

Hearings will not be grouped at 9:00am or 1:30pm but will be set throughout the day. **Please check the Court's docket for your specific hearing time.**

CRIMINAL DOCKETS

First Appearance: Waived if represented by counsel and counsel has requested discovery. Defendants without attorneys will appear as scheduled. Scheduling may be staggered depending on numbers.

Attorney docket: Completed Applications for Court Appointed Attorney will be submitted to the defendant's bondsman by the Thursday before the scheduled Attorney Docket. By agreement, the bondsman will submit the Applications to the Court for consideration and the Court will approve, deny or request additional information. If additional information is needed, Defendant will be required to

appear at the scheduled attorney docket. Defendant will not be required to appear if the Court approves or denies the application.

PreTrials: Appearance by defendants and their attorneys is waived only if a statement of compliance is e-filed stating that the attorney has an offer and has received discovery in the case. Pro Se defendants will be required to appear.

DWLI Pre Trials: Defendants will be required to appear as scheduled.

Trial Call: Appearance by Attorneys and Clients is required.

Jail Run: Pleas are taken via Skype or ZOOM for those defendants incarcerated in the Parker County Jail. Defendant's signature and thumb prints will be handled by jail personnel. All waivers, Judgments and other required paperwork must be completed by Thursday afternoon.

Plea Docket: Pleas will be scheduled every 15 minutes starting at 9:00am. All waivers, Judgments and other required paperwork must be completed by Thursday afternoon. **Defendants and Attorneys will need to be on time.**

MTR, Admin, Bond Hearings, etc.: Appearance by Defendants and Attorneys is required.

Plea negotiations should occur remotely between counsel and the Court encourages cooperation in this regard in order to avoid future docket crowding.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Wearing of Masks is encouraged but not required.

Persons entering the CCL2 courtroom must use hand sanitizer and socially distance from unrelated persons.

A party, witness, and/or counsel that is **medically considered "vulnerable"** should contact the Court to identify themselves as a "vulnerable individual." Accommodations will be provided.

Attendance is limited at court proceedings to attorneys, parties, and witnesses. However, the Court will endeavor to include as many persons in the courtroom as permitted under the OCA guidelines.

See also COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Parker County Judiciary.

Please keep in mind that the Court may change the procedures outlined above.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation!