



Eighth Administrative Judicial Region

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WICHITA
WISE
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Office of Presiding Judge
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June 5, 2020

Judge Jerome S. Hennigan
Tarrant County Local Administrative District Judge
324th District Court
Family Law Center – 4th Floor
200 East Weatherford St.
Fort Worth, Tx. 76196-0232

Dear Judge Hennigan,

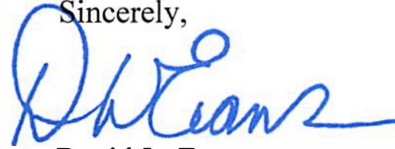
Re: Operating Plan for Tarrant County, Texas as Supplemented
on June 5, 2020.

I have completed a review of the COVID-19 Operating Plan for Tarrant County Judiciary as supplemented on June 5, 2020 and I find that it meets the requirementsⁱ for holding in-person, non-essential hearings. The plan as supplemented on June 5, 2020 has been approved by Dr. Colquitt, the Local Health Authority for Tarrant County. A copy of the supplement and Dr. Colquitt's approval are enclosed and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Notwithstanding the approval of the Operating Plan, the ordersⁱⁱ of the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals and the guidance of OCAⁱⁱⁱ, which are in effect until modified, require judges to use all reasonable efforts to conduct proceedings remotely. Thus, all proceedings should occur remotely unless a necessary participant is unable to successfully participate in remote hearings for reasons beyond the judges control.

Should you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Thank you for all your hard work.

Sincerely,



David L. Evans

ⁱ See Guidance For All Court Proceeding During Covid-19 Pandemic (For Proceeding on or after June 1, 2020).

ⁱⁱ See Seventeenth Emergency Order Regarding the COVID-19 State of Disaster, Misc. Docket No. 20-9071, May 27, 2020.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Supra. Note 1.*



JUDGE JEROME HENNIGAN

324TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS
4TH FLOOR FAMILY LAW CENTER
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(817) 884-1432

June 5, 2020

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ASSOCIATE JUDGE
817-884-1991

JENNIFER HUNTER, OFFICIAL REPORTER
817-884-1430
PRISCILLA FOYNOR, COORDINATOR
817-884-1571

Judge David L. Evans
Eighth Administrative Judicial Region
Office of Presiding Judge
Tom Vandergriff Civil Courts Building
100 N. Calhoun Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76196-1148

Re: Supplement to COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Tarrant
County Judiciary

Dear Judge Evans:

Please accept the following as supplements to the COVID-19 Operating Plan
for the Tarrant County Judiciary:

1. Paragraph 4 of the "General" section of the operating plan should be
modified as follows:

Judges will begin setting non-essential in-person proceedings
according to the provisions and restrictions in the operating plan no
sooner than June 1, 2020.

2. It has come to my attention that plexiglass panels have not been installed
in all of the courtrooms in Tarrant County.

Judges may proceed with in-person hearings prior to the installation
of any plexiglass panels so long as they are compliant with the other
requirements of the plan. In the event in-person trials or hearings are

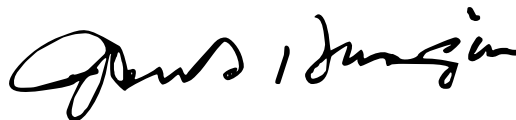
held prior to the installation of the plexiglass panels, judges will take all necessary precautions to protect the court reporter and the witness with appropriate social distancing and the use of face coverings as set forth in the plan. Facilities will install those panels as they become available.

3. Paragraph 2 of the section entitled "Face Coverings" on page 5 of the operating plan should be supplemented as follows:

Judges and court staff are required to wear face coverings while in the courtrooms during in-person proceedings. Judges may remove face coverings when, in the opinion of the judge, it is necessary when speaking for clarity. However, judges are not required to wear face coverings if they have medical conditions that might be exacerbated by the wearing of face coverings. Judges, in their sole discretion, may waive the wearing of face coverings by court staff or any participant in a trial or hearing upon the presentation of medical documentation indicating that the wearing of face coverings would be detrimental to their health.

I would appreciate your prompt consideration of these supplements. Please contact me would you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome S. Hennigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" being more prominent and the last name "Hennigan" following in a similar style.

JEROME S. HENNIGAN

**VEERINDER (VINNY) TANEJA, MBBS; MPH
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR**



**CATHERINE A. COLQUITT, M.D.
LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY & MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

TARRANT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
Accountability · Quality · Innovation

June 5, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

Tarrant County Local Health Authority & Medical Director has reviewed and approved the Supplement to COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Tarrant County Court Judiciary.

Sincerely,

Catherine A. Colquitt MD

Catherine A. Colquitt, M.D.
Local Health Authority and Medical Director
Tarrant County, Texas