

NOLAN, MITCHELL AND FISHER COUNTY
LOCAL RULES AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

COVID-19 ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER # 002
(RELATING TO WAIVER OF APPEARANCE FOR CRIMINAL TRIAL ANNOUNCEMENT)

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Texas Supreme Court's and Court of Criminal Appeals' FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER (expiring May 8, 2020) gives the trial courts authority to modify any and all procedures subject only to Constitutional limitation;

WHEREAS, the Texas Supreme Court's and Court of Criminal Appeals' THIRD EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER, prohibits conducting non-essential proceedings in person contrary to local, state and national directives; and,

WHEREAS, the Office of Court Administration (OCA) directs this State's courts to delay in person proceedings of any size until at least May 1, 2020.

Pursuant to the duties prescribed in and the authority of Texas Government Code § 74.091, *et seq.*, the Texas Constitution and the inherent authority of the Courts, **IT IS ORDERED**:

- (1) that all defendants as well as counsel for the defendant and the State must execute a trial announcement form (see attached) prior to the docket; and,
- (2) After the trial announcement form is received in e-file prior to the scheduled date and time, the presence of the defendant and the attorneys on that particular case is excused.

Any scheduling order implemented in each case will otherwise remain in effect unless modified by the Court.

SIGNED and ISSUED on this the 26th day of March, 2020, at 3:35 p.m.



DAVID HALL, JUDGE PRESIDING
1ST MULTICOUNTY COURT AT LAW

NO. _____

_____ § MULTICOUNTY COURT AT LAW
 V. §
 _____ § NO. 1
 _____ §
 _____ § NOLAN COUNTY, TEXAS

TRIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Trial Date: _____

State's Readiness for Trial: _____ (Answer "Yes" or "No")
 If "No", Counsel is ordered to give the reason:

Defendant's Readiness for Trial: _____ (Answer "Yes" or "No")
 If "No", Counsel is ordered to give the reason:

A plea agreement HAS / HAS NOT been conveyed to the defendant in the above numbered case(s). The Defendant understands the terms and conditions of the plea bargain and hereby voluntarily ACCEPTS / REJECTS the State's offer.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

 Defendant Defense Attorney County Attorney

The Court has heard the announcements of the parties and, unless modified by the Court, all future settings remain in effect. All parties are ORDERED to return to the 1st Multicounty Court-at-Law on the next scheduled setting.

SIGNED and ORDERED on this the _____ day of _____ 2020.

 JUDGE PRESIDING