

351st District Court's Appearance/Zoom Policy

Effective January 1, 2022, the 351st adopts the following court appearance and Zoom policies: Defendants, as well as attorneys for the State and the Defendant, must appear in person for the following settings:

- (1) Defendant's first appearance;
- (2) Each setting if defendant is charged with a 3G offense;
- (3) Any setting if case is over 270 days old;
- (4) Pleas;
- (5) Hearings*;
- (6) Pretrial Conferences;
- (7) Trial;
- (8) Pending Motion to Adjudicate Guilt/Motion to Revoke Probation or Bond Violations;
- (9) As Ordered by the Court.

Additionally, attorneys for defendants in custody must be physically present for every docketed setting.

Counsel may appear via Zoom, and defendants' appearances are waived, for all other settings. Professionalism should be maintained while on Zoom, and **NO DRIVING**. Counsel is encouraged to appear in person for cases where maintaining contact with a client poses challenges.

Zoom policy for **witnesses**: Witnesses may **NOT** appear via zoom without express permission of the court. Parties, after conferring, must obtain permission from the court prior to calling a witness via zoom.

If you cannot participate in-person as required, please contact the court in advance at (832) 927-3680 or by email at Christopher_Gil@justex.net.

COVID-19/Public Health Policy:

For any in-person appearance, face masks are required. The Court will entertain motions to remove face masks for certain settings on a case-by-case basis. Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, has had close contact with someone who has tested positive in the past 5 days, or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, shall not appear in-person and must contact the court.

351st District Court Zoom Information:

(Attorneys, defendants, and persons who must appear)

Zoom Dial-In Number: 346-248-7799 (Houston)
Meeting ID: 227 363 0192
Zoom Link: <https://justex.zoom.us/my/Court351>

Access to Public Live Stream: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/kDGadHRre3J>



Signed this day December 31st, 2021



Hon. Nata Cornelio, 351st District Court

*The Court will entertain motions to have hearings via Zoom on a case-by-case basis where all parties agree in advance and obtain explicit permission of the Court to proceed with the hearing via Zoom.