

## **351st District Court's Appearance/Zoom Policy**

**Effective August 1, 2021**, the 351<sup>st</sup> 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) Pleas;**
- (3) Hearings** (\*The Court will entertain motions to have hearings via Zoom on a case-by-case basis where all parties agree in advance and obtain permission of Court to proceed with hearing via Zoom.);
- (4) Pretrial Conferences;**
- (5) Trial;**
- (6) Pending Motion to Adjudicate Guilt/Motion to Revoke Probation;**
- (7) Pending Bond Violations;**
- (8) 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 are encouraged to appear in person for cases where maintaining contact with a client poses challenges.

**If you cannot participate in-person as required, contact the court in advance at (832) 927-3680 or by email at [claudia\\_mancillas@justex.net](mailto:claudia_mancillas@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 14 days, or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, shall not appear in-person and must contact the court.

### **351<sup>st</sup> 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 Wednesday, June 30, 2021

\_\_\_\_s/Natalia Cornelio\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Nata Cornelio, 351<sup>st</sup> District Court