

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
246th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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STANDING ORDER PROHIBITING ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS

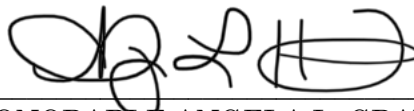
On March 13, 2020, Governor Abbott declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Order authorizes all courts in Texas to “[a]llow or require anyone involved in any hearing, deposition, or other proceeding of any kind—including but not limited to a party, attorney, witness, or court reporter, but not including a juror—to participate remotely, such as by teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or other means.”

While the Texas Supreme Court has authorized video and telephonic hearings and trials during this state of emergency, and while this Court will conduct video and telephonic hearings and trials, unauthorized recording or broadcasting of these court proceedings is prohibited.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that no person, other than the court reporter, may record or broadcast the Court’s video or telephonic court proceedings without the Court’s express permission. This prohibition applies to all persons, including members of the public and media who are viewing or listening to court proceedings.

Any person found in violation of this order could face monetary sanctions or criminal contempt. Each violation of this order could result in a fine up to \$500 and a sentence of confinement in the Harris County Jail for up to six (6) months.

SIGNED on April 14, 2020.



HONORABLE ANGELA L. GRAVES-HARRINGTON
PRESIDING JUDGE, 246TH DISTRICT COURT