



Eleventh Administrative Judicial Region of Texas

Susan Brown

Presiding Judge

Rebecca Brite, Executive Assistant

Statement Regarding Health and Safety Concerns

The health and safety of attorneys, their clients, the public and those who work in the courthouse are crucial. The 11th Region is doing its part to address recent concerns over the Coronavirus and give some guidelines for staying safe.

First, the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is an emerging rapidly evolving situation. It is important to stay up to date on information. Three resources are the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov), The Texas Department of State and Health Services (www.dshs.texas.gov) and locally in Harris County at <http://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus>.

Second, according to the CDC, the immediate risk of COVID-19 to the American public is low¹. However, you can prevent the spread of this and other types of respiratory illnesses by:

- Washing hands often and for at least 20 seconds
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are sick (see Court note below)
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others and practice good social distancing

Third, if you or your client(s) feel flu-like symptoms and you have a setting in the next 30 days, please contact the clerk and/or court coordinator to discuss options for remote video appearances or resetting your matter. Please ensure you copy your opposing counsel or additional parties on any communications or requests. We will give all due consideration for health concerns.

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Presiding Judge, 11th Administrative Judicial Region

March 12 2020

Date

¹<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>