



**Honorable Cheryll Mabray**  
**Judge, Child Protection Court of the Hill Country**  
Post Office Box 846  
Llano, Texas 78643

Tel: (325) 247-7747

Coordinator: Mance Bowden  
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March 18, 2020

**Re: Court Procedures for Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

To: Attorneys, CASA, & CPS Personnel:

As you are aware, the situation with Coronavirus (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly and is having a huge impact on the judicial system.

Courts have been instructed to take an active role in slowing the spread of the virus by limiting all non-essential hearings. The Office of Court Administration and the Regional Presiding Judges have directed all Child Protection Courts to reschedule or postpone any non-essential hearings that are currently scheduled until at least April 1, 2020 and as of this date I am extending this through April 3, 2020. Emergency or essential hearings are to continue as set while implementing precautions to control the risk of contracting and/or spreading the virus.

Myself and each County Attorney's Office are working on our upcoming dockets as it might be possible for some hearings to be held via conference call. We plan to send an email a few days in advance of each docket that lists each case that will be reset and those that will be heard with a time and phone number to call. Most hearings for permanency review after final order will be held remotely. In the interest of judicial expediency, I encourage the use of Rule 11s or settlement agreements. Further, each County Attorney is directed to contact me about the logistics of mediations set between now and April 3, 2020,

In addition, no children shall be allowed in the courtroom. If a child needs to speak with me, please make prior arrangements with me to do so remotely or in a different location.

Anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, or who has flu like symptoms, a fever, or who are coughing or sneezing, please contact the Court before appearing in-person. Attorneys & supervisors are asked to please warn their clients, witnesses, or others having symptoms to alert the Court in advance before appearing. To the extent possible, we will make accommodations, including remote appearances or rescheduling hearings as necessary.

Please anticipate changes to our dockets in the coming days and we appreciate your cooperation. We will be in contact as changes are finalized or we receive further guidance. As always, please feel free to contact Mance or myself if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryll Mabray".

Cheryll Mabray  
Judge Presiding