County Court at Law Polk County, Texas

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To all attorneys practicing in the County Court at Law of Polk County, Texas:

This court has the ability, both technologically and legally, to conduct hearings using video conferencing.

We use our existing High Five system and software. How you participate remotely depends on your communication equipment.

If using a computer, you must have a camera, a microphone and an internet connection which allows the high five data through any firewall. We will send you an email which will contain a link to join the "conversation." When you click it, it should download some software and request entry into the conversation. We will authorize your participation with the ability to see and hear all other participants. Keep in mind that they can see and hear you too.

If using a smart phone or tablet, for both Apple and android systems, download and install the High Five Video Conferencing app. It is a multicolored circle with a black dot in the middle. Prior to the hearing we will send a link by email. Click on the link and you should be in. If not, copy the link in the place provided in the app. You will have to authorize the app to use your camera and microphone. If you are using a cell phone through a wifi connection, be aware that there may be firewall problems on your end. There are apparently no such problems if you are using your cell phone provider, such as AT&T or Verizon, rather than wifi.

Obviously, exhibits require special handling. Any exhibits a party wishes to present during a hearing must be provided to the court and all other known attorneys a day prior to the hearing.

Equally obvious, we must have notice you wish to participate remotely and the email you will use to access the system prior to the hearing.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask. Also, this may need some tweaking as we go along.

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Tom Brown