

Judge Pat McCrory Justice of the Peace, Precinct One P.O. Box 357 (210 S. Helen Street) Overton, Texas 75684 (903) 834-3753

Judge Jackie Risinger
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3
P.O. Box 189 (304 NW 2nd Street)
Mt. Enterprise, Texas 75681
(903) 822-3737

Rusk County Justices of the Peace

Judge Jana Ross Enloe Justice of the Peace, Precinct Five Rusk County Justice Center, Ste. 304 210 West Charlevoix Street Henderson, Texas 75652-3154 Judge Cindy Redmon Justice of the Peace, Precinct Two P.O. Box 1034 (150 West Davis) Tatum, Texas 75691 (903) 947-6440

Judge Darlene Childress Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4 7933 State Hwy 42 South Henderson, Texas 75654

STANDING ORDER REGARDING CORORAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) MITIGATION TO ALL RUSK COUNTY JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (JUSTICE COURT) (Order No. 01)

Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and by the authority granted by law and by the "FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER" ordered by the Supreme Court of Texas and Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, the five Justices of the Peace in Rusk County (referred to as the Justices of the Peace) issue the following order to protect the community and limit exposure to COVID-19:

- All scheduled court proceedings except for essential court proceedings will be reset to a date after May 8, 2020.
- 2. "Essential court proceedings" are defined as: writs of re-entry; writs of retrieval; writs of restoration; magistration of defendants in custody and of fugitives from justice (in or out of custody), death certificates, or burial transit permits; repair and remedy cases that materially affect the physical health or safety of a tenant; and any proceedings necessary to enforce a governmental entity's response to a COVID-19 declaration of state of disaster.
- No eviction settings (both residential and commercial) will be held until after May 8, 2020.
 No writs of possession will be issued by a Justice Court until May 13, 2020.
- 4. This order does not diminish the Justices of the Peace's ability to continue to issue judgments, orders, and rulings by submission if already authorized by law to do so for non-eviction cases.

- 5. For traffic/Class C citations with an appearance date prior to May 8, 2020, the appearance date will be extended until June 15, 2020. (Defendants should check the court's website weekly for updates and email I the Court any updated mailing address). This applies to citeand-release charges and summonses for charges other than Class C misdemeanors as well.
- No warrants based on failing to appear or for violating a promise to appear to a Justice Court for a traffic/Class C citation, cite-and-release charge, or a summons will be issued until June 15, 2020.
- 7. In order to alleviate the threat of COVID-19 in County Jails, the Justices of the Peace temporarily suspend active warrants for all misdemeanor Class C offenses from their courts, until May 8, 2020. All the requirements and conditions of the warrants previously signed by the Justices of the Peace remain in effect but are suspended during this state of emergency. For the effective suspension, the Rusk County Sheriff's Office, Rusk County Constables and all other law enforcement agencies are directed to relate this order to all law enforcement officers requesting confirmation of warrants, so that they are aware not to bring Class C defendants to the jail.

Therefore, all warrants for misdemeanor Class C offenses from the Justices of the Peace are temporarily suspended until May 8, 2020. For the duration of this suspension, the R u s k County Sheriff's Office is ordered to not accept a defendant who solely has a Class C misdemeanor warrant from the Rusk County Justices of the Peace offices.

8. The Constables of Rusk County are authorized that they may not serve Justice Court papers if it is in their best discretion based on the public's health and safety through May 8, 2020. Failure to serve papers based on this order shall not be considered by any court with regard to statute of limitations or diligent service analysis. The Constables of Rusk County must continue to serve Justice Court papers with regard to essential court proceedings in all instances.

- New filings shall be limited or sent E-File (EFileTexas.gov) or to the Justice Court's designated filing email as noticed in each Justice Court's website only until May 8, 2020.
- 10. Each Justice Court is authorized to limit building access to comply with any recommendations/orders from county public health officials regarding limiting the number of people in a public space or room, including but not limited to screening whether a person's business with the Justice Court falls into essential court business and limiting the hours a Justice Court is open to the public, notice of such limitations shall be posted on the Justice Court's official website and at its main entrance.
- All deadlines or statutes of limitation calculations are tolled effective March 19, 2020 to May 8, 2020.

This order shall be posted outside of each Justice Court and on each Justice Court's official website page.

The time periods in this order may be extended in a subsequent order if required.

Signed on March 23, 2020

Judge Jana Ross Enloe

On behalf of the Justices of the Peace in Rusk County, TX