



TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

TARRANT COUNTY JUSTICE COURTS TEMPORARY STANDING ORDER #1

March 17, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Tarrant County Justice Courts will adhere to the following order based upon the directives issued by the Office of Governor, the Texas Supreme Court, and the Office of Court Administration. This order is issued to protect the community, limit exposure, and provide for an efficient judicial system.

This order will remain in effect until the Governor, the Texas Supreme Court, or the Office of Court Administration issues new directives, in which case I will rescind this order or issue a new order in compliance with such directives.

Effective March 17, 2020, all scheduled court proceedings (including motion hearings and trials) except for those deemed “essential court proceedings”, such as Emergency Mental Detention Warrants, Writs of Reentry, Writs of Retrieval, and certain Repair and Remedy cases, are suspended until further notice. As soon as new directives are received, the Justice Court having jurisdiction will contact litigants to notify them of their new court date.

The suspension of court proceedings affects the following civil cases: Evictions, Small Claims and Debt Claims. In Eviction cases, no writs of possession will be issued by the Court until the Court receives a new directive. Additionally, this will affect all Administrative (with the exception of Emergency Mental Detention Warrants) and Criminal dockets.

Tarrant County Justice Courts will reschedule appearance dates and notify defendants on all currently outstanding Traffic/Class-C citations. If you have a citation and want to make a plea and pay, please visit www.jpfines.com or call the court having jurisdiction.

Please note: all Justice Courts in Tarrant County accept filings through EFile Texas. For further information on EFile Texas, please refer to the individual Court’s website, which can be found at: <http://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/justice-of-the-peace-courts.html>

This order is effective at 5:00 pm, March 17, 2020

Judge William P. “Bill” Brandt

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3

On behalf of the Justices of the Peace of Tarrant County Texas