

File No. D-1-GN-61-121012

Filed In The District Court  
of Travis County, Texas  
on MARCH 25, 2020  
at 11:53 A.M.  
veiva L. Price, District Clerk

Administrative Emergency Order        §  
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In the 98<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Sitting as a Juvenile Court  
Travis County, Texas

**First Amended Order Regarding Court Proceedings  
in Response to COVID-19 Emergency**

On this date, the Court sitting as the Juvenile Court enters this First Amended Order Regarding Court Proceedings in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

The Court finds that temporary changes in the handling of juvenile court proceedings are necessary in an effort to comply with the recommendations of the Office of Court Administration in addition to the disaster declarations issued by Travis County officials and the Governor of the State of Texas. On March 16, 2020, this Court issued its first order modifying court proceedings. On March 24, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Austin and the Travis County Judge issued ‘shelter in place’ orders # 20200324-007 and # 202080467, respectively, giving rise to a need for further changes to court proceedings. The Court finds that the provisions in this order regarding court proceedings are in the best interest of public health and safety, and are hereby ordered and implemented until further notice in an attempt to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19:

1. No in-person hearings will be conducted effective this date. All detention hearings for juveniles currently detained or those entering detention will be held using telephonic or video-conferencing through Skype or Zoom;
2. To the extent possible, attorneys are encouraged to obtain a waiver of update detention hearings in the appropriate cases pursuant to the process set forth in Exhibit A;
3. All adjudication, modification, and disposition hearings where placement, commitment, or transfer is requested by the state or any other matter requiring urgent intervention, including Reentry Court hearings for youth placed in the ISC, may be heard via remote hearing to be set in coordination with the court;
4. All bench and jury trials will be continued until further order of the court;
5. For any other emergent matters that should arise during this time, counsel is directed to contact the court by email or phone to address the issues with all parties noticed and/or participating.

SIGNED on March 25, 2020.



RHONDA HURLEY  
Judge, 98<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Juvenile Court  
Travis County, Texas

## EXHIBIT A

### Process for obtaining update detention hearing waivers

Detention Hearing Waiver Forms will be available to detention staff at all times and detention staff will be notified of the location of the forms.

When a juvenile is willing to waive an update detention hearing, his/her attorney should promptly notify detention staff. Detention staff will take a waiver form to the child to allow the child to sign the form in the appropriate space.

Staff will ensure that the signed waiver form is then provided via email to the Juvenile Public Defender's office or the private attorney assigned to the case.

That attorney must sign the waiver and promptly submit it to Gloria Gochicoa or the assigned court clerk for filing and notice to the court and all parties.