

STANDING ORDER SO-2020-0002

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	§	PROBATE COURT
	§	
LOCATION OF MENTAL HEALTH PROCEEDINGS	§	OF
	§	
ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCING	§	DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS

**MENTAL HEALTH PROCEEDINGS
Denton County Probate Judge Administrative Order**

The Court finds as a result of Governor Greg Abbott’s proclamation declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas due to COVID-19 and in cooperation with state and local governments to reduce the community spread of COVID-19, it is in the best interest of the public welfare and the safety and well-being of proposed patients, patients, parties, witnesses, attorneys, clients, clerks, and court staff the following:

1. Pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Section 574.031(a), all mental health hearings and proceedings, hereinafter referred to as “mental health proceedings”, are to be conducted using secure Zoom videoconferencing and/or audio teleconferencing technology, if Zoom is not available.
2. Pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Section 574.031(a) all proposed patients and patients are to appear in mental health proceedings remotely from their inpatient treatment facility using secure Zoom videoconferencing and/or Audio teleconferencing technology, if Zoom is not available.
3. Pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Section 574.031(d), all mental health proceedings are open to the public and may be observed in the Probate Court Hearing Room #2108 of the Denton Courts Building, located at 1450 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.
4. Pursuant to the authority granted to Presiding Statutory Probate Judge, Guy Herman, by Texas Government Code §25.0022(c) and Orders entered by Judge Herman, the undersigned is authorized to perform acts necessary to improve the management of the Denton County Probate Court and to carry out the administration of justice.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that all mental health proceedings, are to be conducted using secure Zoom videoconferencing and/or audio teleconferencing technology, if Zoom is not available.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED all proposed patients and patients are to appear in mental health proceedings remotely from their inpatient treatment facility using

secure Zoom videoconferencing and/or audio teleconferencing technology, if Zoom is not available.

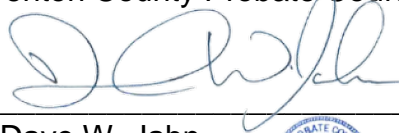
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED all mental health proceedings may be observed in the Probate Court Hearing Room #2108 of the Denton Courts Building, located at 1450 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Standing Order shall remain in effect until further modified by this Court's order.

Signed April 17, 2020.

Bonnie J. Robison
Presiding Judge
Denton County Probate Court




Dave W. Jahn
Associate Judge
Denton County Probate Court