

CALDWELL COUNTY JUSTICES OF THE PEACE



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TEMPORARY STANDING ORDER REGARDING CONORNAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) MITIGATION AND ALL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE IN CALDWELL COUNTY (Order No. 02) Due to coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the four Justices of the Peace in Caldwell County issue the following order based on the Office of Court Administration's "Updated Guidance #1 on Court Procedures for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)." This order is issued to protect the community, limit exposure, and provide for an efficient judicial system: This order will stay in effect unless the Governor of Texas issues a disaster declaration and the Texas Supreme Court (or its delegate) authorizes new rules during the disaster, in which case a new order for the four Justices of the Peace in Caldwell County will be issued comporting to the declaration and rules. If the Office of Court Administration issues updated guidance, the four Justices of the Peace in Caldwell County will amend this order accordingly. All scheduled court proceedings prior to May 8, 2020 **except for "essential court proceedings"** will be reset to another date after May 8, 2020. Each court will contact the litigants to notify them of the new reset date as soon as practicable for the court. **Essential court proceedings are: 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), issuing burial transit permits, issuing of birth certificates, and repair and remedy cases that materially affect the physical health or safety of a tenant.** Our offices will remain open and new cases can still be filed, but no eviction setting will be held until after May 8, 2020. No writs of possession will be issued by a Justice Court for 60 days after the date of this order. For traffic/Class C citations with an appearance date prior to May 8, 2020, the appearance date will be extended and the court will notify defendants of a new rescheduled appearance date (defendants should check the court's website weekly for an update on appearance dates). This applies to cite-and-release charges and summonses for charges other than Class C misdemeanors as well. No warrants due to failing to appear for a traffic/Class C citation, cite-and-release charge, or a summons will be issued for 60 days from the order.

AMENDED DATE: March 18, 2020 at 12:00 PM

Judge Raymond D. De Leon

On behalf of the Justices of the Peace of Caldwell County, Texas

