

In the 277th District Court

of Williamson County, Texas

STANDING ORDER FOR REMOTE PROCEEDINGS IN JUVENILE DETENTION
HEARINGS AND RELATED HEARINGS

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 54, Texas Family Code, as amended by HB422 (88th Regular Legislative Session), the 277th District Court, sitting as the Juvenile Court for Williamson County, adopts this order in compliance with the requirements of 54.012(a-2), Texas Family Code.

1. OPEN COURTS

Juvenile proceedings will ordinarily take place in-person, in an open courtroom unless a request for closed courtroom is made and granted or the court, *sua sponte*, determines this is necessary.

2. REMOTE PROCEEDINGS

In the interest of justice, the Court may permit one or more participants, including the judge, counsel, party/litigant, witness, court reporter, interpreter, or other individual to attend a court hearing remotely ("remote proceeding"). Except for instances where the courtroom is ordered closed, any element of a proceeding that takes place remotely will be broadcast live into the courtroom, in compliance with the requirement of open and accessible courts.

A party who identifies a need should make such a request through the Court Administrator no less than 48 hours before the hearing, in order to ensure access to technology. Failure to make a timely request may result in denial of the request or delay of the hearing. The

2:15 FILED
at _____ o'clock _____ M

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Lara David

District Clerk, Williamson Co., TX.

Court uses Microsoft Teams as the primary tool for conducting remote proceedings, and the link to join the proceeding shall be provided by Juvenile Services.

3. CONDUCT WHILE ONLINE

An individual providing testimony from a remote proceeding shall remain within the view of the camera at all times. Remote proceedings are courtroom proceedings and the local rules of court apply to individuals participate remotely. Remote participants should act accordingly.

4. EVIDENCE

While the Court does not require a party to divulge proposed exhibits in advance of a trial, recognizing that admission of exhibits in a remote proceeding can be time-consuming, the court strongly urges a party intending to offer exhibits during such a proceeding to provide them via electronic mail to the court, opposing counsel, and the court reporter in advance to facilitate sharing the evidence with any remote participants. The subject line should read: Cause Number, Respondent's initials, Exhibit number (i.e. "Petitioner's Exhibit 1"). One exhibit shall be sent in each email to ensure that exhibits are opened and entered as intended.

When provided, documents must be submitted as PDFs, audio and video files, which may not exceed 5GB, shall be provided in a format with any of the following extensions: avi, .wmv, .wav, .avi, .wmv, .wav, .mpg, .mid, .asf, .mpeg, .mp1, .mp2, .mp3, .mp4, .mp4v, .mpg, .ogg, .oga, .ogv, .webm. Physical evidence may be submitted via photograph.

Signed this 27th day of November, 2023.



Hon. Stacey Mathews
277th District Court
Williamson County, Texas