

Remote Detention Hearing Procedures Randall County Juvenile Court

A detention hearing under Section 54.01 of the Texas Family Code may be conducted as a remote proceeding in the Randall County Juvenile Court. Consent of the parties is not required unless required by the Texas or United States Constitution. The parties to a remote detention hearing will have the opportunity to cross-examine witnesses.

The court may allow or require a party, attorney, witness, court reporter, or any other individual to participate in a detention hearing conducted as a remote proceeding.

The court will ensure that there is unobstructed audio and view of any party or witness who provides testimony from a remote location. No witness will be permitted to give any evidence who does not comply with the requirement, unless given permission by the sitting judge.

Physical evidence for remote detention hearings will be handled as follows:

- (1) a party intending to introduce exhibits at a remote detention hearing must email the documents to the court reporter, the court coordinator, and opposing counsel no later than one hour prior to the hearing.
- (2) a party intending to introduce "physical evidence" that cannot be emailed must contact the court reporter or court coordinator three hours prior to the remote detention hearing to make arrangements for "physical evidence" that is not capable of being provided through email.
- (3) presentation of any physical evidence offered at a remote proceeding detention hearing shall be displayed so that the court, attorneys, parties, and witness can view it simultaneously.

A recording of the remote proceeding shall be made. The recording shall be preserved until the earlier of:

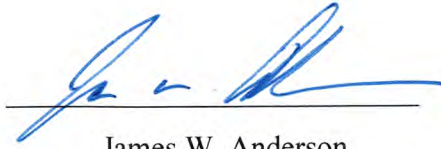
- (1) the 91st day after the date on which the recording is made if the child is alleged to have engaged in conduct constituting a misdemeanor;
- (2) the 120th day after the date on which the recording is made if the child is alleged to have engaged in conduct constituting a felony; or
- (3) the date on which the adjudication hearing ends.

An attorney for the child may obtain a copy of the recording on payment of the reasonable costs of reproducing the copy.

In this document, "remote proceeding" means a proceeding in which

- (1) each of the participants, including a judge, party, attorney, witness, court reporter, or other individual, attends the proceeding remotely through the use of technology and the Internet, including through teleconferencing or videoconferencing, AND
- (2) none of the parties or attorneys are attending the detention hearing in person in the Juvenile Court's courtroom.

Approved by the Randall County Juvenile Board on April 17, 2024 in open meeting duly posted and held in Randall County, Texas.



James W. Anderson
Chairman, Randall County Juvenile Board

In accordance with Texas Family Code Section 54.012, this plan was submitted to the Texas Office of Court Administration (OCA) on April 18, 2024, by posting on <https://www.txcourts.gov/rules-forms/local-rules-forms-and-standing-orders>.