## 284<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT'S STANDING ORDER REGARDING HIPAA AND THE TEXAS MEDICAL PRIVACY ACT

No party to a lawsuit has requested this Order. Rather, this Order is a Standing Order of the 284<sup>th</sup> District Court that applies in every suit utilizing protected health information.

## **Definitions**

"Protected Health Information" shall include all information and records reflect that an individual received health care from some entity.

"Litigation Participants" shall include the following people associated with the litigation:

Parties

- Counsel of record,
- Testifying experts,
- Other attorneys and staff within their firms,
- Consulting experts,
- Other litigation support services.
- Copy services,
- Witnesses.

Mediators,

Arbitrators, and

- Wicdiators
- The Court.

## Court Order Regarding Protected Health Information

It is ORDERED that all Litigation Participants are authorized to disclose, receive, and use Protected Health Information in connection with the pending litigation, without need for further authorization or Court Order under HIPAA, the Texas Medical Privacy Act, or other law.

It is further ORDERED that if any Protected Health Information will be used as a filing in a case or as a document offered in Court for any purpose, then the party filing or proffering the document containing Protected Health Information must redact the patient's (1) name, (2) birthdate, (3) social security number, (4) driver's license or government identification card number, (5) address, and (6) telephone number.

It is further ORDERED that if all of the above listed items (1)-(6) are not redacted from any document containing Protected Health Information which is filed in a case, then the District Clerk may, without further order of the Court, restrict any such unredacted document from being filed and

require the filing party to provide a conformed copy of the document with redactions in its stead.

It is further ORDERED that if the above listed items (1)-(6) are not redacted from any document containing Protected Health Information offered in Court for any purpose, then the Court may reject the offer of such document, the admission of such document, or both, and may require offering a conformed copy of the document with the redactions in its stead.

It is further ORDERED that any document containing Protected Health Information, whether redacted or not, which is offered in Court, whether admitted as evidence or not, will be sealed for purposes of filing exhibits with the District Clerk and for the purpose of the appellate record.

This Court Order does not authorize any person to disclose, receive, or use Protected Health Information for any purpose other than the pending litigation.

NOTICE: ANY PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF THIS COURT ORDER IS SUBJECT TO ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE.

Signed June 26, 2019.

KRISTIN BAYS, PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE 284<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT