

## FORT BEND COUNTY FAMILY COURTS STANDING ORDERS

In response to the Texas Supreme Court's *Third Emergency Order Regarding the COVID-19*State of Disaster, specifically the directive that "Courts must not conduct non-essential proceedings in person contrary to local, state, or national directives, whichever is most restrictive, regarding maximum group size," the 328th, 387th, and 505th District Courts issue the following standing orders applicable to all pending and newly filed cases. These orders are effective immediately and shall remain in effect until May 11th, 2020, or until further order of the Court.

## The Courts issue the following orders:

- 1. All non-essential cases that are currently set for hearing are being reset by the Court.
- 2. The Court will determine whether any cases that are currently set are "essential" so that those cases may still be heard by the Court. "Essential" cases shall include the followings:
  - a. Protective Orders if an Ex Parte has been granted
  - b. CPS emergencies and CPS show cause hearings
  - c. Habeas Corpus and Writ of Attachment proceedings
  - d. Temporary Orders if extraordinary relief is granted based on the TRO request upon filing
  - e. Chapter 33 hearings
- 3. Prove-ups of Agreed Divorces, SAPCRs, and Name Changes may be submitted with supporting affidavit and signed orders approved as to form by all counsel and as to form and substance by all parties.

## Requirements for Prove-Up of Agreements and Other Agreed Orders

Prove-ups of agreements and other agreed orders may be done by submission with sworn affidavits.

Agreed Orders include orders pertaining to temporary/ancillary issues as well as final orders for divorces, modifications, suits affecting the parent-child

relationship, name changes and enforcements as long as the enforcement order does not hold the Respondent in contempt.

- Agreed orders disposing of all issues must contain signatures of all parties/attorneys can be proven up by sworn affidavit. All signatures must be distinctive written signatures or DocuSign-style signatures. Do not sign for a party by submission or sign "/s/ Typed Name";
- The Appearances section of the order must indicate that the parties did not appear in person and that the making of a record was waived; and
- The sworn affidavits must be attached to the proposed order as an exhibit and must include the same information solicited during a prove-up with the witness in the courtroom.
- 4. All new filings shall include standing Temporary Mutual Injunctions in the form promulgated by the Courts. The injunctions will be attached to all new filings by the District Clerk.

Signed this 20th day of March, 2020.

Walter Armatys

Presiding Judge, 328th District Court

Brenda Mullinix

Presiding Judge, 387th District Court

David Perwin

Presiding Judge, 505th District Court

## STANDING ORDER REGARDING TEMPORARY INUNCTIONS FOR THE $328^{\text{TH}}$ , $387^{\text{TH}}$ AND $505^{\text{TH}}$ DISTRICT COURT

This Order confirms the District Clerk of Fort Bend County shall attach the appropriate Standing Temporary Mutual Injunctions to every cause, under a separate tab, in which a divorce or suit affecting the parent child relationship is filed. The District Clerk of Fort Bend County shall also provide a copy of the appropriate Standing Temporary Mutual Inunctions with every request for citation as follows:

- 1. Petitions for Divorce with Children the clerk shall attach the Standing Temporary Mutual Injunctions attached to this Order as Exhibit "A";
- 2. Petitions for Divorce with no Children the clerk shall attach the Standing Temporary Mutual Injunctions attached to this Order as Exhibit "B"; and
- 3. Petitions containing a Suit Affecting the Parent Child Relationship the clerk shall attach the Standing Temporary Mutual Injunctions attached to this Order as Exhibit "C".

Signed and entered this 19th day of March, 2020...

Judge Brenda G. Mullinix