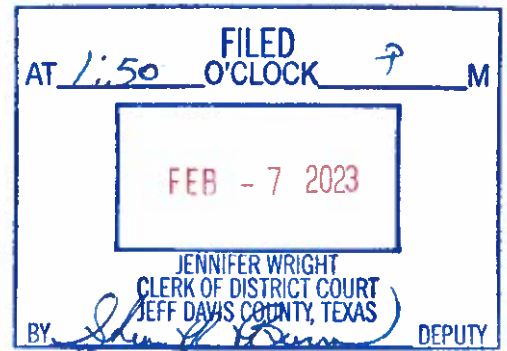




**394th Judicial District Court
The Honorable Roy Ferguson
Judge Presiding**



**STANDING ORDER REGARDING PUBLIC
ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC PROCEEDINGS**

WHEREAS the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure authorize Texas courts to allow or require anyone—including but not limited to the court, a party, attorney, witness, or court reporter, but not including a juror—involved in a court proceeding governed by those Rules to participate electronically or remotely, such as by teleconference, videoconference, or other electronic means, except where otherwise prohibited by law;

WHEREAS a court may permit participants to appear electronically in criminal court proceedings as provided by law;

WHEREAS unless a court has determined that it must close a court proceeding as provided by law, Texas courts must provide the public the opportunity to observe court proceedings, and must provide reasonable notice to the public of how to observe these proceedings; and

WHEREAS the 394th District Court is committed to ensuring transparency of the justice system;

THEREFORE, the following is a STANDING ORDER of this Court:

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

1. Electronic court proceedings shall be conducted pursuant to this Court's Virtual Hearing Protocols.

2. Only participants in a court proceeding shall be admitted to the virtual courtroom except by express prior permission of the Court, which may be revoked at any time.
3. The public may view electronic court proceedings either in the district courtroom in the county courthouse of venue, or on the Court's YouTube Live-Streaming Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/394thDistrictCourtTX/live>, or both, at the Court's discretion. The Court is not required to utilize one option over the other and cannot be compelled to do so. Recording, capture, or download of these electronic proceedings by anyone other than the Court is prohibited, and may subject the violator to a finding of contempt and a sentence of up to \$500 and 180 days in jail.
4. The Court may in its discretion record video and audio of its electronic court proceedings. Video and audio recordings of electronic court proceedings are not public information and do not form a part of the official record or transcript of the case. Official transcripts of court proceedings may be obtained by contacting Verbatim Reporting & Transcription, LLC, at (281) 724-8600 or kimberly@verbatimrt.com.

This Standing Order replaces this Court's Standing Order of August 16, 2022, and is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or replaced by this Court. This Standing Order is subject to modification or amendment by the undersigned at any time.

This Standing Order shall be posted on the Court's website at www.Texas394th.com, and the District Clerk of each county within the 394th Judicial District is directed to file this Order in the administrative orders of the Court and post a file-marked copy of this Order as a Public Notice at the County Courthouse.

Signed the 7th day of February, 2023.



Roy B. Ferguson
Judge, 394th Judicial District