

Revised Order

Effective Tuesday March 24, 2020, the Office of the County Engineer orders the following regulations that are necessary for public health, safety and welfare. Harris County will continue to monitor the compliance and effectiveness of these regulations and consider whether court operations must be further reduced to minimize the threat to public safety from COVID-19.

All Courts:

- To reduce unnecessary risk to the public, in-person gatherings will only be permitted when necessary to accomplish essential court functions.
- All courts operating within county buildings are required to limit all gatherings to a maximum of ten people with the exception of grand juries and mandated Chapter 81 jury trials, mental health trials or as determined constitutionally necessary by a Judge.
- The maximum occupancy of all courtrooms is limited to ten people with the exception of grand juries and mandated Chapter 81 jury trials, mental health trials or as determined constitutionally necessary by a Judge.
- The maximum occupancy of all other spaces is limited to that which can ensure the comfortable social distancing of at least six feet between all persons, and at no time more than ten people.
- All courts will enforce procedures to ensure the comfortable social distancing of at least six feet between all persons at all times.

Elevators:

- The maximum occupancy of all elevators is limited to no more than one person or one pre-existing family or social unit, unless posted to greater capacity.

Harris County Criminal Courts at Law:

- No more than four County Criminal Courtrooms are permitted to operate on any given day within the Criminal Justice Center.
- Courtroom Locations in CJC on the 8th and 9th Floor: CCCL #1, CCCL #3, CCCL#5, & CCCL#6.

Harris County Criminal District Courts:

- No more than eight District Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Criminal Justice Center (CJC) and one District Courtroom in the Civil Courthouse.
- Courtroom Locations in CJC on the 14th and 15th Floor: 14-1, 14-2, 14-3, & 14-4; 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, & 15-4.
- Courtroom Location in the Civil Courthouse, 11th Floor: 157th District Court.

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Harris County Civil District Courts:

- No more than six District Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse.
- Courtroom locations in the Civil Courthouse: 80th District Court - 9th Floor, 129th District Court -- 10th Floor, 152nd District Court –11th Floor, 165th District Court –12th Floor, 215th District Court –13th Floor, & 333rd District Court –14th Floor.

Harris County Family District Courts

- No more than three Family Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse
- Courtroom Locations in the Civil Courthouse: 310th District Court - 15th Floor & 312th District Court – 16th Floor.
- Courtroom location in the Juvenile Justice Center: 280th District Court –7th Floor

Harris County Probate Courts

- No more than four Probate Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse.

Harris County Civil Courts at Law:

- No more than one Civil Court at Law Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse.
- Courtroom Location in the Civil Courthouse: County Civil Court at Law 2 - 5th Floor.

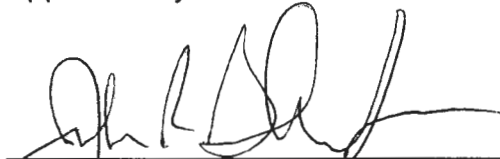
Harris County Juvenile Courts:

- No more than one Juvenile Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center in the 314th District Court, 5th floor.
- No more than one Detention Hearing Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center on the 1st floor.
- No more than one public viewing area by video will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center at the Juvenile Probation Training Room on the 1st Floor.

Harris County Family Law Center

- All IV-D matters will conducted via virtual courtroom.

Approved By:



John R. Blount, PE
County Engineer