

ORDER REGARDING WITNESSES ADOPTED BY THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COURTS AT LAW FOR POTTER, RANDALL AND ARMSTRONG COUNTY

IT IS ORDERED that any non-party witness subpoenaed to appear before any County Court at Law or District Court in Potter, Randall, or Armstrong County from and after March 26, 2020 until the date the State of Emergency is lifted by the Governor of Texas and courts resume hearings in the traditional manner shall appear via the remote link provided by the attorney who issued the subpoena. The witness shall appear on the date and time via the Zoom.us meeting link set forth in the subpoena. In the event the witness does not have access to a computer or other device capable of connecting to the internet with both visual and audio connection, the witness must notify the court and the issuing attorney within 3 days of the service of the subpoena, and the court will consider other options.

Should the witness be directed to produce documents to the hearing, the witness shall have the documents available electronically emailed to the Court and opposing counsel/party at or before the time of the hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED If the documents are or may be protected by HIPPA or other legal privilege, or if the documents are too voluminous to email, that the documents shall be mailed to the appropriate Court Reporter with the cause number clearly indicated on the wrapper, but no party names are to be listed on the outside of the envelope. If Documents are mailed to the court, all documents not subject to a properly asserted objection shall be mailed to the requesting attorney contemporaneously with the mailing to the court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the witness participate in the hearing to authenticate the documents unless excused by the court or the attorney who subpoenaed the documents. The envelope shall not be opened nor the contents examined by the Court unless they are properly authenticated and admitted in evidence at the hearing subject to the court's ruling on admissibility. If practical the court may direct documents to be presented visually at the hearing subject to their later receipt by the court.