



LESTER UNDERWOOD

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2
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Judge Chris Accord, Pct 1
Judge Mark Laughlin, Pct 3

TEMPORARY STANDING ORDER REGARDING CONORNAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) MITIGATION AND ALL JUSTICE COURTS IN GRIMES COUNTY (Order No.01 - March 24, 2020)

Due to coronavirus disease (COVID-19), all three Justice Courts in Grimes County issued the following order based on the Office of Court Administration's "Update Guidance #1 on Court Procedures for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)." All three Justice Courts will be closed to the public. All phones will be answered during each court's normal business hours. All filings will continue to be accepted. This order is issued to protect the community, limit exposure, and provide for an efficient judicial system:

This order will stay in effect unless the Governor of Texas amends the current disaster declaration and the Texas Supreme Court (or its delegate) authorizes new rules during the disaster. If the Office of Court Administration issues updates guidance, the three Justice Courts in Grimes County will amend this order accordingly.

All Scheduled court proceedings except for "essential court proceedings" will be reset. Each court will contact the litigants to notify them of the new reset date as soon as practicable for the court. Essential court proceedings are:

- Writs of re-entry
- Writs of retrieval
- Writs of restoration
- Magistration of defendants in custody and of fugitives of justice (in or out of custody)
- Repair and Remedy Cases that materially affect the physical health or safety of a tenant
- Inquest

For traffic/Class C citations the appearance date will be extended and the court will notify defendants of a new rescheduled appearance date. No warrants due to failing to appear for a traffic/Class C citation, cite-and-release charge, or a summons will be issued until further notice.

Dated: March 25, 2020 at 10:00AM

Judge Lester Underwood

On behalf of the Justice Courts in Grimes County, Texas

