

COURTHOUSE SECURITY AND JUDICIAL COURTROOM PROTOCOL

The Grimes County Commissioners Court finds that rules and protocols should be adopted for the efficient operation of the court system and the safety of the court personnel and the public. The following rules and protocols are hereby adopted and applicable to the parts of the Grimes County Justice and Business Center located at 270 FM 149 West, Anderson, Texas 77830 and the historic Grimes County Courthouse located at 100 S. Main Street, Anderson, Texas 77830 where court proceedings are held ("Courthouse" herein) including the County Court at Law and District Courtrooms ("Courtroom" herein).

1. SECURITY

All Courtroom participants, unless pre-cleared, must pass through the security station and metal detectors located at the entrance of the Courthouse. The carrying of guns and weapons into the Courthouse is expressly forbidden Texas Penal Code §46.03(a)(3). During the security screening process, the security personnel will require all visitors to empty their pockets and place the items in a tray for examination. All items carried into the Courthouse will be thoroughly screened before the items are allowed into the Courtroom. Visitors should consider this process when deciding what to wear or carry into the Courthouse with them.

Participants may be required to provide additional identifying and contact information as necessary. The bailiff is in charge of Courtroom security and may ask individuals who fail to comply with Courtroom rules to leave the Courthouse.

2. FOOD AND DRINK

- A. ATTORNEYS:** While in trial or hearings or dockets, parties and attorneys may have water or beverages at the counsel table. Attorneys may bring drinks into the Courtroom in **spill-proof containers**. No food should be brought into the Courtroom except by permission of the Court (breaks in trial etc.). Hard candies, mints, etc. maybe brought in as long as they are individually wrapped.
- B. PARTIES & VISITORS:** Parties and visitors are not permitted to bring food or beverages into the Courtroom with the exception of water in a **spill-proof container**. Chewing gum and or candy is not allowed in the Courtroom.
- C. JURORS AND JURY PANEL MEMBERS:** During jury selection and while serving as a Juror, members of the venire and jurors may bring drinks into the Courtroom and jury deliberation room in **spill-proof containers**. Food may be consumed in the jury room with permission of the Court.

3. COURTROOM CONDUCT

- A. GENERAL:** Except as otherwise set forth herein, clothing, conduct, and decorum requirements inside the Courtroom will be established and enforced by the Judge presiding.
- B. RECORDING/FILMING:** No filming or videotaping of proceedings in hallways and stairways adjacent to the Courtroom is permitted without the Court's permission. This includes recording by cell phone or similar devices. Courthouse security and Court Bailiffs are authorized to confiscate any devices used in contravention of this prohibition.
- C. DISRUPTION:** Persons outside the Courtroom shall not disrupt or cause any disruption of the Court proceedings and shall not restrict or impair the movement of persons and attorneys through the halls and/or doors to the Courtroom.
- D. CHILDREN:** Individuals attending Court are discouraged from bringing minor children to the Courthouse. Children may not be brought into the Courtroom without the consent of the Court, except those children who are being adopted or are the subject of juvenile law proceedings. If the Court approves a request for a judge to interview a child in chambers, the child may be brought to the Courthouse at the time announced for the interview.
- E. CLOTHING:** No one will enter the Courtroom wearing cutoffs, shorts, tank tops, swim wear, obscenity on clothing, house slippers, "flip-flops", halter tops, dirty clothing, micro mini-skirts, workout garments, mid-riff shirts, hats, sunglasses (unless prescription), inappropriate jeans, shorts, or other inappropriate clothing. Appropriate shoes must be worn. No slippers, Crocs, etc. will be permitted. Shirts shall be appropriately buttoned. Attorneys are responsible for informing their clients of the Court's dress code.

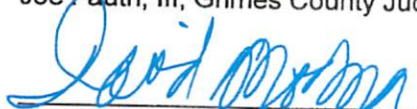
ADOPTED BY THE UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE GRIMES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT on this the 18th day of May, 2022.




Joe Fauth, III, Grimes County Judge



Tuck McLain, County Court at Law Judge

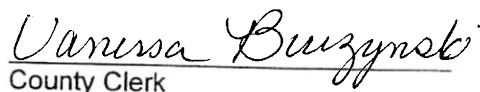


David Moorman, 12th Judicial District Judge



Gary Chaney, 506th Judicial District Judge

Attest:



Vanessa Buzynski
County Clerk