EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 10, 2021

434th District Court

These policies also apply for all proceedings held in the 434th Associate District Court and E.N.D. Court

In compliance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidance regarding Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events, the Supreme Court of Texas First Emergency Order Regarding the COVID-19 State Disaster issued on January 14, 2021, and out of a concern for public health, safety, and wellbeing, the **434th District Court will be holding limited in-person dockets.**

However, all criminal cases will need to be reset in accordance with the 434th District Court's Rules of Practice and Procedures. To ensure the health and safety of court staff and the public, the Court has adopted the following procedures:

- EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 10, 2021, ALL RESETS SHALL BE EFILED WITH THE DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE WITH NOTICE GIVEN TO THE FORT BEND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.
- The reset provided below is to be used for ALL electronic resets. Please download to your P.C. before entering the required information.
- Electronic resets are being accepted on all pending cases with scheduled court appearances. All resets must be submitted by 9:00am the day of, but no more than 3 days prior to docket call. It is the attorney's responsibility to get their client's signature. All cases not timely submitted will be subject to bond forfeiture.
- No inmates are being brought over from the jail unless deemed essential by the court. If you have an inmate on the court's docket, please email the 434DC@fortbendcountytx.gov for a new reset.
- Prosecutors will only be on "stand-by" for any pleas or essential matters that need to be handled via Video Conference. You will need to contact the District Attorney's Office at 281-341-4460 to have any pleas worked out before court and to notify them of any essential hearings. Defendants will appear in person. Paperwork must be e-filed 48 hours in advance and notice given to the Court Coordinator and Prosecutors. Please note that all hearings will be done via Webex, unless deemed essential by the court for an inperson hearing.
- Only essential hearings or emergencies can be scheduled with the court upon request by email to the Court Coordinator. This applies to criminal and civil cases.
- All civil hearings will be held via Webex. Please contact the Court Coordinator for available dates and time at <u>434DC@fortbendcountytx.gov</u>.
- Please e-file a notice of hearing for all civil cases with the District Clerk's Office.

• Civil Trials scheduled through April 1, 2021, will need a new DCO or Scheduling Order in place. Please email the court for new dates.

Download the E-Reset Form [PDF]

NOTICE OF ACCOMODATIONS FOR AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS

Due to COVID-19 many individuals are considered "at-risk" members of the vulnerable population. These members include, but are not limited to, individuals who are over 65 and individuals with serious underlying health conditions, such as high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune systems are compromised. If you believe you are a member of this vulnerable population, please contact the Court Coordinator, Tonie Guevara, via email at 434DC@fortbendcountytx.gov and provide your full name, cause number, and contact information to advise the court regarding your need for special accommodations and a specialized docket to ensure your continued safety.

Honorable J. Christian Becerra

Associate Judge Argie Brame