

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BELL

FILED

2022 JAN -3 PM 4: 06

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

JONATHAN STATION
DISTRICT COURT
BELL COUNTY
CLERK OF COURT
[Signature]

The recent spike in infections of Covid-19 in Bell County in the general public and in the employees of the County and the jail inmate population has resulted in a recommendation of the Bell County Public Health District and the Bell County Judge that the courts consider restriction of live hearings and implementation of procedures to protect the health and safety of persons who are allowed to appear in the courts.

Therefore, pursuant to the inherent powers of the Bell County Courts, this Administrative Order is promulgated to protect the parties, attorneys, staff, and all others who come before the Courts of Bell County.

IT IS ORDERED that beginning January 10, 2022, the Bell County District Courts, the Bell County Courts at Law, and the Bell County Justice of the Peace Courts will conduct all hearings remotely unless the Judge of the Court determines that the hearing is essential and that it is impossible or impractical to conduct the hearing remotely.

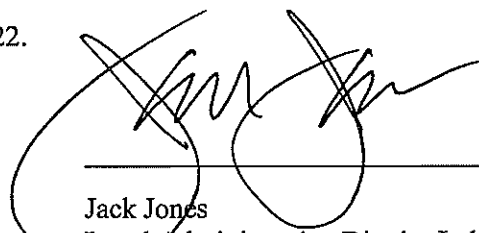
All persons who are allowed to appear in court shall wear masks and maintain social distancing at all times. Any person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19 or has experienced symptoms of infection in the prior 5 days shall not be permitted to enter the court building or facilities.

Jury trials will be held only if the Judge of the Court determines that the trial is essential, and all participants expressly consent to proceed with available health and safety procedures.

Attorneys and self-represented litigants will receive notice from the Courts with instructions for pending hearings or trials.

This order will remain in effect until expressly rescinded or revised by a subsequent order.

SO ORDERED this 3rd day of January 2022.



Jack Jones
Local Administrative District Judge
District Judge, 146th Judicial District