STANDING ORDER FOR BELL COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS

ORDERED THAT:

In consideration of the Bell County Declaration of Disaster issued March 17, 20 The Coretavirus (COVID-19), and in conjunction with the SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS (MISC. DOCKET NO. 20-9042, 20-9043, 20-9044) and COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS (Misc. DOCKET NO. 20-9047, 20-908) in their joint FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD EMERGENCY ORDERS REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER issued March 13, 17, and 18, 2020, the District Courts of Bell County Texas (27th Judicial District/146th Judicial District/169th Judicial District/264th Judicial District/426th Judicial District), hereby ORDERS AND EXTENDS Art. 17.151 Sec. (1) of the Texas Criminal Code of Criminal Procedure from 90 days from the commencement of his detention if the defendant is accused of a felony and extends that period by an additional 30 days after the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted for defendants whose 90 day period under Art. 17.151 (CCP) expired after the date of this STANDING ORDER and before the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted.

Under normal circumstances, under Art. 17.151 Sec. 1 (CCP), a defendant who is detained in jail pending trial of an accusation against him must be released either on personal bond or by reducing the amount of bail required, if the state is not ready for trial of criminal action for which he is being detained within: (1) 90 days from the commencement of his detention if he is accused of a felony. The Courts, finding extraordinary circumstances, identified by the FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER, consistent and under the authority of the FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER, hereby pursuant to 2 (a) of said Order, modifies the deadline from 90 days from the commencement of his detention if he is accused of a felony and extends that period by an additional 30 days after the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted for defendants whose 90 day period under Art. 17.151 (CCP) expired after the date of this STANDING ORDER and before the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted.

The District Courts of Bell County make this Order and modification in order to avoid risk to court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors, and the public, more specifically the April re-call of the January term of the 264th Judicial District Court's Grand Jury.

JUDGE ADAMS (169TH DISTRICT COURT

JUDGE JONES (146TH DISTRICT COURT)

JUDGE JEZEK (426TH DISTRICT COURT)

JUDGE GAUNTT (27TH DISTRICT COURT)

JUDGE LEPAK (264TH DISTRICT COURT)