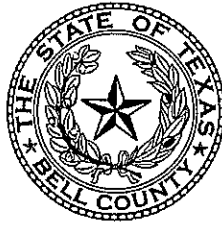


DISTRICT COURTS OF BELL COUNTY

1201 HUEY ROAD • P.O. BOX 747 • BELTON, TEXAS 76513-0747

JOHN GAUNTT, JUDGE
27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(254) 933-5261

JACK W. JONES, JR., JUDGE
146TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(254) 933-6737



PAUL L. LEPAK, JUDGE
264TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(254) 933-5245

STEVEN J. DUSKIE, JUDGE
426TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(254) 933-5246

July 8, 2021

To: All attorneys and parties in cases in Bell County District Courts
From: Jack Jones, Judge 146th District Court, Local Administrative District Judge

JOANNA STATION
DISTRICT CLERK
DEPUTY

2021 JUL -8 PM 1:42

FILED

REMOTE HEARING POLICY IN DISTRICT COURT

Pursuant to the Order of the Texas Supreme Court dated May 26, 2021, the requirement that courts in Texas allow remote hearings and consider as evidence sworn statements made out of court expires on August 1, 2021.

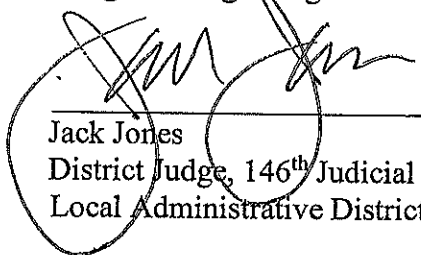
Therefore, effective August 1, 2021, all trials, hearings and other proceedings in Bell County District Courts shall be conducted in person, unless the court shall have granted permission for the trial, hearing or proceeding to be conducted remotely.

Consent for remote hearings shall be granted only for good cause and not for the convenience of the parties and/or the attorneys. It is possible for one or more of the participants in the trial, hearing or proceeding to appear remotely if good cause is shown and permission is granted by the court.

This policy shall apply to any trial or hearing for which a notice has previously been sent indicating that the trial or hearing will be conducted on Lifesize. Therefore, unless express consent is granted by the court after this date, the trial or hearing will be conducted in person. The time of such trial or hearing shall be as indicated on the prior notice.

Also effective August 1, 2021 the courts will not consider as evidence sworn statements made out of court, unless such sworn statement is admissible as evidence pursuant to the Texas Rules of Evidence.

Trials, hearings and proceedings which are permitted to be conducted remotely shall be subject to the Bell County District Court Local Rules, including rules regarding attire and conduct in the court room.



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