

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 20-9071

SEVENTEENTH EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER

ORDERED that:

1. Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. This Order is issued pursuant to Section 22.0035(b) of the Texas Government Code.

2. The Twelfth Emergency Order Regarding the COVID-19 State of Disaster (Misc. Dkt. No. 20-9059) issued April 27, 2020, Paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9, are renewed as amended.

3. Subject only to constitutional limitations, all courts in Texas may in any case, civil or criminal—and must to avoid risk to court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors, and the public—without a participant's consent:

a. except as provided in paragraph (b), modify or suspend any and all deadlines and procedures, whether prescribed by statute, rule, or order, for a stated period ending no later than September 30, 2020;

b. in all proceedings under Subtitle E, Title 5 of the Family Code, specifically including but not limited to Section 263.401(b):

(i) modify or suspend a deadline or procedure—whether imposed by statute, rule, or order—for a stated period not to exceed 180 days;

(ii) extend the dismissal date for any case previously retained on the court's docket for an additional period not to exceed 180 days from the date of this Order.

c. Allow or require anyone involved in any hearing, deposition, or other proceeding of any kind—including but not limited to a party, attorney, witness, court

Date 3:40 o'clock P M
MAY 22, 2020
MARY ELLEN FLORES
District Clerk, Goliad County Texas
By Mary Ellen Flores Deputy