

199th Judicial District, Hon. Angela Tucker
219th Judicial District, Hon. Jennifer Edgeworth
296th Judicial District, Hon. John Roach, Jr.
366th Judicial District, Hon. Tom Nowak
380th Judicial District, Hon. Benjamin Smith
401st Judicial District, Hon. Mark Rusch
416th Judicial District, Hon. Andrea Thompson



417th Judicial District, Hon. Cynthia Wheless
429th Judicial District, Hon. Jill Willis
468th Judicial District, Hon. Lindsey Wynne
469th Judicial District, Hon. Piper McCraw
470th Judicial District, Hon. Emily Miskel
471st Judicial District, Hon. Andrea Bouressa

COLLIN COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS SECOND EMERGENCY STANDING ORDER REGARDING VISITS IN CHILD PROTECTION CASES

Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Collin County has also enacted various executive orders relating to the state of disaster.

This order is a standing order of the Collin County District Courts that applies in every suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed by the Department of Family and Protective Services in Collin County.

This order replaces the 3/24/2020 *Collin County District Courts Emergency Standing Order Regarding Visits in Child Protection Cases*, which is hereby dissolved.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. All visits by parents, siblings, attorneys ad litem, guardians ad litem, and the Department of Family and Protective Services may be conducted by remote visits.
2. Remote visits may occur by telephone or video conference.
3. Pursuant to the Best Practices for Family Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic published by the Texas Children's Commission on March 23, 2020, parties are encouraged to use any technology available and should consider whether it is in the child's best interest for virtual visits to increase in duration or frequency.
4. This order shall apply to children in relative, fictive kin, and foster care placements
5. All trials currently set between now and May 31, 2020 will be reset. All trials currently set between now and May 31, 2020 will be reset to a date on or after June 1, 2020. Please contact the Court Coordinator immediately for reset dates.
6. All regularly scheduled CPS hearings will be done by submission. The Attorney Ad Litem for the Child/ren and CASA will be required to file a report prior to the day of any scheduled hearing containing any and all relevant information pertaining to the child.
7. The Attorney Ad Litem for the Child/ren and CASA will be required to conduct visit(s) with the child/ren prior to any scheduled hearing. Visits may be conducted by remote means as referenced above.
8. All children are excused from coming to Court for participation in Court hearings for all hearings scheduled until May 31, 2020.

9. Please contact the Court Coordinator immediately if any 14 day (Temporary Order) hearing will be contested so that arrangements can be promptly made.
10. If any emergency hearing is needed, a motion must be filed and the Court must be notified immediately so that the matter can be addressed.
11. If necessary, the Court may extend the automatic dismissal date in a case or extend any other statutory deadlines by Court order.

SIGNED on 5/1/2020.

/s/ Emily Miskel

By Hon. Emily Miskel
Local Administrative District Judge

On behalf of:

199th Judicial District, Hon. Angela Tucker
296th Judicial District, Hon. John Roach, Jr.
417th Judicial District, Hon. Cynthia Wheless
468th Judicial District, Hon. Lindsey Wynne
469th Judicial District, Hon. Piper McCraw
470th Judicial District, Hon. Emily Miskel