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20 April 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER ON COURT OPERATIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the Texas Supreme Court has issued supplemental guidelines for the conduct of Court proceedings during the current COVID-19 Pandemic, as set forth in its Third Emergency Order, and

WHEREAS, among other guidelines, the Texas Supreme Court guidelines call for in-person proceedings to be delayed until at least 1 June 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that the updated policy announced by the Texas Supreme Court be implemented by the 97th Judicial District Court, pending further developments in the current health crisis;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that all jury trials and in-person hearings—except those specifically set by the Court after the date of this order--are cancelled pending further notice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all participants and spectators at in-person hearings before the 97th Judicial District Court shall wear face coverings while in the courtroom.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all prior orders of this Court related to the COVID-19 health crisis and the operations of the 97th Judicial District Court shall remain in full force and effect, except as modified by this Supplemental Order.

Signed this 20th day of April 2020.

Jack A McGaughey, Judge Presiding

Julia Ki