

NAVARRO COUNTY

MELISSA BUTLER
COURT COORDINATOR



LESLIE KIRK
OFFICIAL REPORTER

JAMES LAGOMARSINO

JUDGE, 13TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
NAVARRO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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March 16, 2020

RE: March 17, 2020 Docket

Dear Counsel and Litigants:

As this Court and Court and Court at Law continue to find ways to continue court proceedings without shutting down our courts like some have already done throughout the State of Texas, the Court will be issuing letter rulings daily until a formal order can be entered.

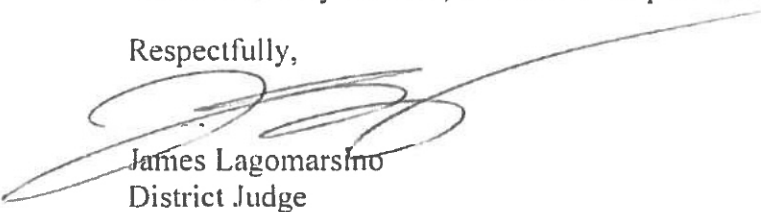
In regards to the March 17, 2020 docket, the Court will allow only one case at a time in the courtroom. All other parties and counsel will have to remain outside the courtroom until their case is called. The Court will relocate counsel tables and the witness stand so as to maintain the recommended distance from others.

In regards to the criminal cases where a status was set tomorrow afternoon, all defendants and their counsel are excused from appearing in the courtroom. The Court orders the State and Defense Counsel to continue the discovery process and maintain an open line of communication. Furthermore, the Court orders that counsel for both sides and the defendants return on the next scheduled date pursuant to the Court's scheduling order.

While I understand that some counsel have requested to appear telephonically, the Court does not have the capability to offer this service due to lack of equipment. It should be noted that the Office of Court Administration is working on a web-based program to conduct remote hearings.

In closing, thank you for your consideration during this time. You can rest assured the Court is attempting to find a way to keep the Court open. However, the Court will also be taking into consideration the well-being of not only those who come into the courtroom but the community as a whole. The Court orders that this letter is posted at the Navarro County Courthouse, the Navarro County website, and sent to all parties and counsel.

Respectfully,


James Lagomarsino
District Judge