Justice of the Peace, Precinct One Angelina County, Texas

Modified Court Operations Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic Updated 01/01/2022

<u>Current Supreme Court Orders</u>

45th Emergency Order - Effective November 22, expires February 1, 2022 and March 1, 2022. Renewal of the 43rd Emergency Order, allowing modification of procedures and deadlines **only for trials and pretrial hearings** through March 1, 2022; providing guidance on remote and in-person proceedings. See the sections on guidance for in-person and remote hearings for more information, including OCA best practices. (<u>Read the 45th Emergency Order here</u>.)

46th Emergency Order - Effective December 21; expires March 1, 2022. This order addresses the closure of the Texas Eviction Diversion Program portal. (<u>Read the 46th Emergency Order here</u>.) Please see the Residential Eviction and Diversion Program sections above for full information and to download the forms and documents related to this Order.

<u>Civil Cases in Justice Court, Precinct One, Angelina County, Texas</u></u>

MODIFYING OR SUSPENDING DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES

Pursuant the Texas Supreme Court's Emergency Orders and OCA Guidelines, no In-Person Hearings/Trials will be set effective January 1, 2021. *All proceedings will be held via ZOOM, (remote Trials/Hearings).*

No in-person jury trials will be held until further notice.

Effective June 1, 2020, eviction cases have resumed. Evictions may be filed, served, and heard.

The Court has implemented ZOOM remote hearings. It is imperative that the Court know whether or not parties have the capability to participate in a remote hearing. If you receive a hearing notice and are not capable of participating in a remote hearing, notify the Court upon receipt of the notice. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE DATE OF THE HEARING!**

NOTICE TO PARTIES

HEARINGS

Justice of the Peace, Precinct One, Angelina County, Texas are strictly remote hearings. <u>If you are</u> <u>unable to participate in a video/phone hearing, notify the Court immediately upon receiving the</u> <u>hearing notice. Do not wait until the hearing date.</u>

PRESENTING EVIDENCE IN CIVIL CASES (Other than Evictions)

Hearings will be set at least 30 days from the time the notice is mailed out.

This is to allow time for both parties to present ALL evidence that will be presented to the Court, to the opposing party as well. This should be done by email, fax, or mail. All evidence should be presented to the Court **and the opposing party** no later than 14 days prior to the hearing. Failure to provide all evidence to the Court and the opposing party will result in a reset of the hearing or denial of admittance of the evidence. Both parties shall provide an acknowledgment to the Court and the opposing party that they received the evidence. If you are providing photographs as part of your evidence, they must be in color and mailed to the Court and mailed or emailed to the opposing party. Faxed or emailed copies of photographs will not be accepted by the Court. Providing photographs as part of your evidence, they must be in color and mailed to the Court and mailed or emailed to the opposing party. Faxed or emailed copies of photographs will not be accepted by the Court.

PRESENTING EVIDENCE IN EVICTION CASES

All parties must present ALL evidence to the Court and the opposing party. This should be done by email, fax, or mail. All evidence should be presented to the Court **and the opposing party** no later than <u>5 days</u> **prior** to the hearing. **Failure to provide all evidence to the Court and the opposing party will result in a reset of the hearing or denial of admittance of the evidence.** Both parties shall provide an acknowledgment to the Court and the opposing party that they received the evidence. If you are providing photographs as part of your evidence, they must be in color and mailed to the Court and mailed or emailed to the opposing party. Faxed or emailed copies of photographs will not be accepted by the Court.

COVID-19 Operating Plan

As mandated by the Supreme Court of Texas and the Office of Court Administration, the Justice Courts' of Angelina County COVID-19 Operating Plan, along with other helpful resources, including legal resources, are available on our website at <u>www.AngelinaCounty.net</u> under Courts and Public Safety. Each Justice Court has independent webpages with instructions specific to their Court. You can also access the Judicial Records Search for up to date status information on your case, Courtroom Rules for each Court, Tips for Remote Hearings and other helpful resources. The Court strongly encourages the use of the website as you can access updates and changes quickly. This is a great resource for changes in case and hearing statuses on a short notice.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 936-634-8334.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Angelina County Website: <u>www.AngelinaCounty.net</u> The Texas Judicial Branch Website - <u>http://txcourts.gov/</u> Texas Justice Court Training Center – Self Represented Litigants: <u>https://www.tjctc.org/SRL.html</u> Texas Law Help Coronavirus Resources - <u>https://texaslawhelp.org/article/coronavirus-covid-19</u> Office of Court Administration Coronavirus Resources - <u>https://www.txcourts.gov/court-coronavirus-information/</u>