

**1<sup>ST</sup> ADDENDUM TO COVID-19 OPERATING PLANS FOR THE ATASCOSA,  
FRIO, KARNES, LASALLE AND WILSON COUNTY JUDICIARIES**

**CRITERIA FOR IN-PERSON PROCEEDINGS**

Judges may hold in-person proceedings if they determine that it is not practicable to hold a proceeding remotely because:

1. A necessary participant is unable to participate remotely due to disability;
2. A necessary participant is unable to participate remotely due to a lack of access to technology;  
or,
3. The exclusion of individuals unable to participate remotely, no single one of which is a necessary participant, would constitute the exclusion of a class, or group, whose exclusion raises serious concerns of violation of statutory or constitutional rights.

Judges should bifurcate in-person proceedings, so that only that portion of the proceeding it is not practicable to hold remotely is held in-person.

Date: 12/30/2020



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Local Administrative District Judge  
Honorable Russell Wilson

As local health authority, I have reviewed the COVID-19 Operating Plan for the LaSalle County Judiciary. The plan includes all the currently recommended infection control practices for mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

Due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Texas, I advise limiting in person proceedings to the greatest amount possible. The addendum to the plan covers this. The plan with the addendum is thorough and protective. I have no revisions or additions.

*Lillian Ringsdorf, MD, MPH*

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**From:** Judge Russell Wilson <russell.wilson@81-218.txcourts.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2020 12:42 PM  
**To:** Ringsdorf,Lillian (DSHS) <Lillian.Ringsdorf@dshs.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Recertification of In-person Court Plans for Atascosa, Frio, Karnes, LaSalle and Wilson Counties

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Dr. Ringsdorf:

The Office of Court Administration mandates that counties must recertify their court reopening plans. Recertification includes checking with the Public Health Authority to verify that the current reopening plans are still acceptable.

I have attached a copy of the previously approved Reopening Plan for one of the five counties I represent. All five are substantially similar, except for matters that pertain strictly to each individual county, such as limits for a particular courtroom. I have also attached a DRAFT of the 1<sup>st</sup> Addendum to those plans, which, per OCA mandate, specifies the criteria by which requests for in-person proceedings will be evaluated.

Please let me know if the current plans, and proposed addendum, are acceptable.

Russell Wilson  
Local Administrative Judge  
81<sup>st</sup>/218<sup>th</sup> Judicial Districts