



275TH DISTRICT COURT

Hon. Marla Cuellar
Presiding Judge

With due regard for, and in addition to the Emergency Orders Pertaining to the COVID-19 signed on March 17, 2020 and for the safety and health of the public, litigants, attorneys and our staff, the following guidelines are immediately implemented and will continue until further notice.

ALL CRIMINAL CASES:

- Present settings for all defendants in custody will remain on the scheduled docket.
- Arraignments will remain as scheduled. Except that attorneys will be permitted to file a waiver of arraignment on behalf of their clients for all pending arraignments scheduled between March 25, 2020 and May 15, 2020. The defendant and counsel's appearance will be excused only if the waiver is notarized and signed by the attorney and his/her client, and a reset date of May 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. is included in the waiver. (Counsel can contact court staff for a sample waiver.)

ALL NON-ESSENTIAL HEARINGS WILL BE RESET AS FOLLOWS:

- No jury trials will be set before May 11, 2020 and such date may be modified as needed or required.
- All settings by submission for dispositive motions will remain on the docket unless an agreement is reached by counsel and filed.
- The Dismissal for Want of Prosecution docket currently scheduled for April 30, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. **WILL NOT** be rescheduled. Counsel who wish to retain the case on the docket must file a Motion to Retain Case on Docket and give notice to all parties. Upon filing of the motion, their presence will be excused.

The Court's most vital interest is to protect the constitutional rights of all our citizens. No action of the court will impede on any such right. But as our county encounters a novel enemy, our concern for the safety, health, and future of our family, friends and neighbors are in tandem with our primary mission. Thank you for your anticipated understanding. Together we are stronger.

God bless Hidalgo County, God bless Texas and God bless America.

Signed this 20th day of March, 2020

MARLA CUELLAR
PRESIDING JUDGE