


Rules of the County Court at Law of Gillespie County, Texas for Court Proceedings Via Electronic Means

The following rules of conduct and decorum are to be followed by all participants:

1. A Defendant or Attorney cannot *leave* the Zoom* proceeding unless given permission by the court.
 2. If communications with the court are disconnected or stopped for any reason, then Defendant or Attorney must immediately attempt to reconnect communication with the court.
 3. If a Defendant or Attorney cannot establish a communication connection with the court, then the Defendant or Attorney must immediately contact the Court Coordinator at (830) 307-3766.
 4. All court proceedings conducted via electronic means are formal court proceedings. All rules of conduct and decorum that apply to in-person court proceedings conducted in the courtroom apply fully to all court proceedings conducted via electronic means.
 5. All court participants must be respectful to the court and all other parties and participants. All participants shall refrain from any conduct or action that may disrupt the proceedings.
 6. All court participants should be patient.
 7. Participants should seclude themselves in a location where there are no distractions for the Court or other parties. All participants should be aware of their background and surroundings, and if a virtual background is used, then it must be appropriate for court.
 8. All participants must wear appropriate clothing for court.
 9. No foul language, guffaws or inappropriate hand gestures will be tolerated.
 10. All participants should turn off their camera and/or microphone if they have to go to the restroom.
 11. Participants shall not chat privately with a witness.
 12. Never interrupt the judge while the judge is speaking.
 13. Participants will not interrupt another party or participant while they are speaking, unless an Attorney, pro see defendant has an objection.
 14. Participants may privately chat with their attorney when not testifying.
 15. All participants must stay available while they are in the *Zoom Waiting Room*.
 16. Participants will not take personal telephone calls while their case is being heard.
 17. The judge will record the Zoom session.
 18. The proceeding will be live streamed on the Court's YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy_4xPDDwM86iO0h3FnzTeA
 19. Violation of these rules may result in contempt of court sanctions.
- *Zoom* means and includes a hearing, trial, or other court proceeding that is conduct by any electronic means including but not limited to telephone conference call, closed circuit television, Skype, Zoom, voice over internet, or any other means other than direct in-person court appearance.

SEE REVERSE SIDE

MAY 26 2020
FILED
MARY LYNN RUSCHE
COUNTY CLERK - Gillespie Co., Texas
By 
Deputy

**Rules of the Court at Law of Gillespie County, Texas for
Courtroom Proceedings**

- 1 . All persons shall be appropriately attired for court proceedings and in a manner reasonably befitting the dignity and solemnity of court proceedings. Tank tops, tube-tops, T- shirts that are tattered or soiled or which contain lewd or inappropriate language, shorts and clothing that is tattered or soiled are among those items not considered appropriate courtroom attire. No hats, caps or sunglasses shall be worn in the courtroom.
2. No tobacco use in any form is permitted.
3. No bottles, beverage containers, paper cups or edibles are allowed in the courtroom, except as permitted by the Court.
4. No gum chewing is permitted.
5. No propping of feet on tables or chairs is permitted.
6. No talking or unnecessary noise is permitted which interferes with the court proceeding.
7. No person may, by facial expression, shaking or nodding of the head, or by any other conduct, express approval or disapproval of any testimony, statement or transaction in the courtroom.
8. No person shall bring packages, suitcases, boxes, duffel bags, shopping bags or containers in the courtroom without the prior approval of the bailiff.
9. No person shall be permitted any verbal or physical contact with a prisoner without the prior approval of the bailiff.
10. No person shall bring radios, tape recorders, computers, cameras, cellular telephones, pagers or other electronic devices into the courtroom unless the device is required for the court proceeding and prior approval has been given by the bailiff or the Court. Counsel may bring cellular telephones or computers into the courtroom as long as the devices are on silent or are turned off and are not used to record the Court's proceedings.