

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-02


IN RE: § IN THE PROBATE COURT
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-02 §
§
§
§ BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON TEMPORARY CHANGE TO PERSONAL SERVICE
ON PROPOSED WARDS IN GUARDIANSHIP MATTERS,
ATTORNEY AD LITEM AND GUARDIAN AD LITEM VISITATIONS, AND
HEARINGS HELD IN ALTERNATE LOCATIONS

Pursuant to an administrative order issued on April 6, 2020 by Judge Guy Herman, Presiding Judge of the Statutory Probate of Texas, and in response to the orders issued by the Supreme Court of the State of Texas as it pertains to these individuals and the impact/potential threat to said wards from the COVID-19 pandemic, the courts believe there is a need for an administrative order to address these matters which will protect the wards and the guardians from exposure to said virus

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that effective immediately, the courts shall adopt the attached administrative orders 2020-02, 2020-03, and 2020-04.

SIGNED April 9, 2020.



Judge Oscar J. Kazen,
Presiding Judge
Bexar County Probate Court No. 1



Judge Veronica Vasquez,
Presiding Judge
Bexar County Probate Court No. 2

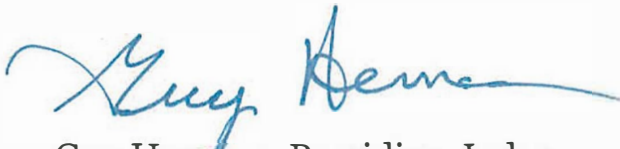
**Presiding State Statutory Probate Judge
Administrative Order 2020-2**

Pursuant to Government Code § 25.032, the undersigned, as Presiding Statutory Probate Judge, finds that in light of the Texas Governor's COVID-19 Disaster Declaration, it is **ORDERED** that if a Statutory Probate Court is unable to conduct hearings at the county seat, then that Statutory Probate Court shall conduct hearings from an alternate location in the county in which that Statutory Probate Court is located, or in any other safe location outside the county that is closest in proximity to the Statutory Probate Court's county seat, as seen fit by the Judge of the respective Statutory Probate Court, that allows the Statutory Probate Court to safely and practicably conduct its proceedings.

It is further **ORDERED** that each judge shall post the location of said proceedings on the Court's website.

Costs, if any, for this filing are waived.

Signed on the 6th day of April, 2020.



Guy Herman, Presiding Judge
Statutory Probate Courts of Texas

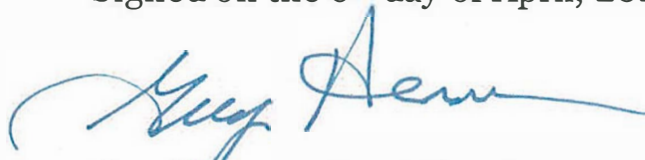
**Presiding State Statutory Probate Judge
Administrative Order 2020-3**

Pursuant to Government Code § 26.009 and in response to the Texas Governor's COVID-19 Disaster Declaration, and acting as Presiding Judge of the Statutory Probate Courts of Texas whose administrative judicial region includes all of Texas, it is **ORDERED** by the undersigned that any and all proceedings to which a judge appointed by the Presiding Judge is assigned shall occur at an alternate location in the county in which the court sits, or in any location authorized by law, or at a location outside the county that the appointed judge determines is closest in proximity to the county seat in which the court sits that allows the court to safely and practicably conduct its proceedings.

It is further **ORDERED** that this Administrative Order is in effect until further order of the Presiding Judge or until the period ending 30 days from the Governor's proclamation that the Disaster period is over.

Costs, if any, for this filing are waived.

Signed on the 6th day of April, 2020.



Guy Herman, Presiding Judge
Statutory Probate Courts of Texas

**Presiding State Statutory Probate Judge
Administrative Order 2020-4**

Pursuant to Government Code § 25.0022(d)(1), the undersigned, as Presiding Statutory Probate Judge, finds that it is necessary to issue a second administrative order in ensuring the promulgation of local rules of administration in accordance with policies and guidelines set by the Supreme Court in response to the restriction of in-person visitors to hospitals, nursing homes, and other certain residential facilities, such as long-term care facilities or assisted living facilities, as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. This Administrative Order requires all Statutory Probate Courts to issue local orders that conform to the following:

1. Authorizing the constable or sheriff, in a guardianship proceeding, to accomplish personal service by alternate methods on a proposed ward or ward who is located in a facility that is prohibiting in-person visits, such as:
 - a. leaving a true copy of the citation, with a copy of the petition attached, with anyone over eighteen years of age at the facility who commits in advance to deliver the citation to the proposed ward or ward subject to the citation; or
 - b. by affixing the citation on the door to the entrance of the facility in which the proposed ward or ward is located; and

2. Allowing the attorney ad litem and guardian ad litem who are appointed in a guardianship proceeding to accomplish their visits with the proposed ward or ward who is currently in a facility that is prohibiting in-person visits by using alternative methods of communication either through any technology applications that allows visual face-time communication or over the phone.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that the Statutory Probate Courts to issue local orders that conform with this Administrative Order.

Costs, if any, for this filing are waived.

Signed on the 6th day of April, 2020.



Guy Herman, Presiding Judge
Statutory Probate Courts of Texas