

KIM AVANTS
MILLS COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

P. O. Box 65
Goldthwaite, Texas 76844

Mills County Courthouse
Phone (325) 648-2278

**TEMPORARY STANDING ORDER REGARDING CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
(COVID-19) MITIGATION AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN MILLS COUNTY
(ORDER NO. 01)**

Due to coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Justice of the Peace in Mills County issue the following order based on the Office of Court Administration's "Updated Guidance #1 on Court Procedures for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)." This order is issued to protect the community, limit exposure, and provide for an efficient judicial system:

This order will stay in effect unless the Governor of Texas issues a disaster declaration and the Texas Supreme Court (or its delegate) authorizes new rules during the disaster, in which case a new order for the Justice of the Peace in Mills County will be issued comporting to the declaration and rules. If the Office of Court Administration issues updated guidance, then the Justice of the Peace in Mills County will amend this order accordingly.

All scheduled court proceedings prior to April 12, 2020, except for "essential court proceedings" will be reset to another date after April 12, 2020. The court will contact the litigants to notify them of the new reset date as soon as practicable for the court. Essential court proceedings are: writs of re-entry, writs of retrieval, writs of restoration, magistration of defendants in custody and of fugitives from justice (in or out of custody), issuing of burial transit permits, issuing of birth/death certificates, and repair and remedy cases that materially affect the physical health and/or safety of a tenant.

No eviction setting will be held until after April 12, 2020. No writs of possession will be issued by a Justice Court until April 12, 2020.

For traffic/Class "C" citations with an appearance date prior to April 12, 2020, the appearance date will be extended until April 12, 2020, and the court will notify defendants of a new rescheduled appearance date. This applies to cite-and-release charges and summonses for charges other than Class "C" misdemeanors as well. No warrants due to failing to appear for a traffic/Class "C" citation, cite-and-release charge, or a summons will be issued for sixty (60) days from the order.

Date: March 16, 2020



Judge Kim Avants
Mills County Justice of the Peace