

The 406th Judicial District Court, in its continued commitment to providing access to justice while taking into consideration the current State of Disaster, has established the following protocol with regard to civil cases currently set for jury trial during the months of August or September 2020.

In accordance with the emergency orders from the Texas Supreme Court, in particular the directive to minimize the number of court visitors and the mandate to not schedule any non-essential in person hearings for the next month or two, the 406th Judicial District Court will entertain motions from parties wishing to waive their request for a trial by jury. Any such requests to waive a scheduled jury trial will result in same being scheduled for a bench trial on the current trial setting or within two weeks of the originally scheduled trial date. All other cases that remain on the jury trial list for August or September may be rescheduled for a later date depending on the current state of emergency and upon availability of jury panels.

Those parties who wish to keep the trial date and waive the jury should notify the Court in writing. These cases will remain on the docket as currently set, or will be set within two weeks of the scheduled date, and will be presided over by Judge Oscar J. Hale, Jr. as if originally set for bench trial.

Those cases whose parties wish to have their case presented before a jury will be reset to the court's next *available* date which will be provided by the court coordinator as soon as the Court approves of same.