



**COURT COORDINATOR – CIVIL
VICTORIA COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS**

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May 15, 2020

RE: HEARING REQUESTS

To All Attorneys Practicing Before the 24th, 135th, 267th and 377th District Courts:

The following is Ordered by the Courts:

On June 1, 2020, in-person court hearings will resume. There will be a considerable number of constraints. Social distancing, facial coverings, and limits on the number of persons allowed in the court will have an impact on how many cases can be set, and the time of each setting. SEE ATTACHED ORDER.

Cases will be set by the Court hourly on docket days beginning at 9:00 a.m. (for example: Five (5) cases will be set at 9:00 a.m., five (5) cases will be set at 10:00 a.m., etc.) Some cases may be docketed in the afternoon. Do not arrive before your case is scheduled. Early arrival will negatively impact required social distancing. Cases which have been settled before docket day may be proved up at the scheduled time. Written orders or Rule 11 Agreements signed by all parties and attorneys detailing terms of settlement are preferred by the Court and will facilitate disposition of the Court's docket.

Incident to the foregoing, attorneys MUST confer before arriving at the courthouse. There will be no time to accommodate settlement negotiations which have customarily occurred after docket call in the past. The new normal will be that attorneys will be expected to go forward on the merits of their cases as soon as the Court is ready to proceed. Announcements of "conferring" will not be honored.

Attorneys should also anticipate that the Court will curtail presentation of testimony which is not concise and to the point of the matter to be decided. All exhibits should be pre-marked and ready for submission to the Court. Attorneys should present accurate summaries of the relief requested or be prepared to make brief statements to the Court regarding relief requested.