

Effective Tuesday March 24, 2020, the Office of the County Engineer orders the following regulations that are necessary for public health, safety and welfare. Harris County will continue to monitor the compliance and effectiveness of these regulations and consider whether court operations must be further reduced to minimize the threat to public safety from COVID-19.

**All Courts:**

- To reduce unnecessary risk to the public, in-person gatherings will only be permitted when necessary to accomplish essential court functions.
- All courts operating within county buildings are required to limit all gatherings to a maximum of ten people with the exception of grand juries and mandated Chapter 81 jury trials, mental health trials or as determined constitutionally necessary by a Judge.
- The maximum occupancy of all courtrooms is limited to ten people with the exception of grand juries and mandated Chapter 81 jury trials, mental health trials or as determined constitutionally necessary by a Judge.
- The maximum occupancy of all other spaces is limited to that which can ensure the comfortable social distancing of at least six feet between all persons, and at no time more than ten people.
- All courts will enforce procedures to ensure the comfortable social distancing of at least six feet between all persons at all times.

**Elevators:**

- The maximum occupancy of all elevators is limited to no more than one person or one pre-existing family or social unit, unless posted to greater capacity.

**Harris County Criminal Courts at Law:**

- No more than two County Criminal Courtrooms are permitted to operate on any given day within the Criminal Justice Center.
- Courtroom Locations in CJC on the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor: 8-1 & 8-3.

**Harris County Criminal District Courts:**

- No more than eight District Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Criminal Justice Center (CJC).
- Courtroom Locations in CJC on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Floor: 14-1, 14-2, 14-3, & 14-4; 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, & 15-4.

**Harris County Civil District Courts:**

- No more than six District Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse.
- Courtroom locations in the Civil Courthouse: 80<sup>th</sup> District Court - 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, 129<sup>th</sup> District Court -- 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, 152<sup>nd</sup> District Court -- 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, 165<sup>th</sup> District Court -- 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, 215<sup>th</sup> District Court -- 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, & 333<sup>rd</sup> District Court -- 14<sup>th</sup> Floor.

### **Harris County Family District Courts**

- No more than three Family Courtrooms will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse
- Courtroom Locations in the Civil Courthouse: 310<sup>th</sup> District Court - 15<sup>th</sup> Floor & 312<sup>th</sup> District Court – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor.
- Courtroom location in the Juvenile Justice Center: 280<sup>th</sup> District Court –7<sup>th</sup> Floor

### **Harris County Civil Courts at Law:**

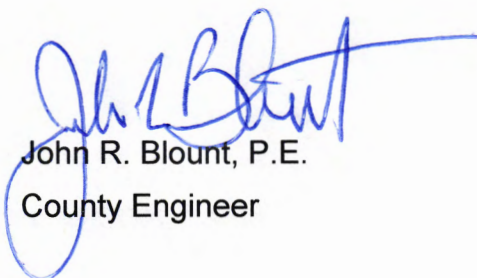
- No more than one Civil Court at Law Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Harris County Civil Courthouse.
- Courtroom Location in the Civil Courthouse: County Civil Court at Law 2 - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.

### **Harris County Juvenile Courts:**

- No more than one Juvenile Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center in the 314<sup>th</sup> District Court, 5<sup>th</sup> floor.
- No more than one Detention Hearing Courtroom will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- No more than one public viewing by video will be permitted to operate on any given day within the Juvenile Justice Center at the Juvenile Probation Training Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.

### **Harris County Family Law Center**

- All IV-D matters will conducted via virtual courtroom.



John R. Blount, P.E.  
County Engineer