

*Judge Johnny T. Villarreal*  
800 10th Street, Box 8  
Floresville, TX 78114  
Office: 830-393-5112



*Judge Connie Terry*  
402 Bluebonnet (FM 775)  
P.O. Box 503  
La Vernia, TX 78121  
Office: 830-779-2285

*Judge Sara Canady*  
121 Dilworth Plaza  
P.O. Box 626  
Poth, TX 78147  
Office: 830-484-2356

*Judge C.J. Rutland*  
800 10th Street, Box 6  
Floresville, TX 78114  
Office: 830-393-4052

03/23/2020 – *\*Updated and Extended*

### TEMPORARY STANDING ORDER REGARDING (COVID-19)

Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the four Justices of the Peace in Wilson County, issue the following order based upon the directives issued by the Office of the Governor, the Supreme Court of Texas, and the office of Court Administration. This order is issued to protect the community, limit exposure, and provide for an effective judicial system:

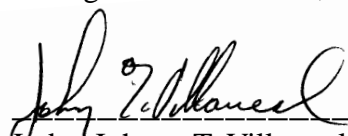
This order will stay in effect until the Governor, the Texas Supreme Court, or the Office of Court Administration issues a new directive, in which the four Justices of the Peace in Wilson County will issue a new order in compliance with their directives.

Effective March 18, 2020, all scheduled court proceedings (including motion hearings and trials) except for essential court proceedings will be reset to a date after April 16, 2020. "Essential court proceedings" are defined as: 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); death certificates, or burial transit permits; repair and remedy cases that materially affect the physical health or safety of a tenant. Each court will contact the litigants to notify them of their Court dates as soon as practicable for the court.

No Eviction setting will be held until after April 16, 2020. Writs of possession may not be executed, including the posting of the written warning notice, until April 26, 2020. The 60 and 90 day deadlines in Rule 510.8(d) are paused until the expiration of the order.

For traffic/Class C citations the appearance date may be extended on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Justice Court. If you have a citation and want to make a plea and pay, please visit [www.co.wilson.tx.us](http://www.co.wilson.tx.us) or call as most cases can be handled over the phone with instructions from the clerk.

Re-Signed on March 23, 2020 at 8:00 AM

  
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Judge Johnny T. Villarreal

On behalf of the Justices of the Peace in Wilson County, TX

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03/23/2020– *\*Updated and Extended*

**STANDING ORDER REGARDING CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)  
MITIGATION TO ALL WILSON COUNTY JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (JUSTICE  
COURT) UPDATED MARCH 23, 2020 (Order No. 02)**

Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and by the authority granted by law and by the "FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER" ordered by the Supreme Court of Texas and Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, the four Justices of the Peace in Wilson County (referred to as the Justices of the Peace) issue the following order based on our previous order (Order No. 1) to protect the community and limit exposure to COVID-19:

1. All scheduled court proceedings except for essential court proceedings will be reset to a date after April 16, 2020.
2. "Essential court proceedings" are defined as: 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 birth certificates, death certificates, or burial transit permits; repair and remedy cases that materially affect the physical health or safety of a tenant; and any proceedings necessary to enforce a governmental entity's response to a COVID-19 declaration of state of disaster.
3. No eviction settings (both residential and commercial) will be held until after April 16, 2020. No writs of possession will be issued by a Justice Court until April 26, 2020.
4. This order does not diminish the Justices of the Peace's ability to continue to issue judgments, orders, and rulings by submission if already authorized by law to do so for non-eviction cases.

5. For traffic/Class C citations the appearance date may be extended on a case by case basis to the discretion of the Justice Court. This applies to cite-and-release charges and summonses for charges other than Class C misdemeanors as well.
6. Warrants based on failing to appear or for violating a promise to appear to a Justice Court for a traffic/Class C citation, cite-and-release charge, or a summons may be issued on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Justice of the Peace.
7. In order to alleviate the threat of COVID-19 in County Jails, the Justices of the Peace temporarily suspend active warrants for all misdemeanor Class C offenses from their courts, until April 16, 2020. All the requirements and conditions of the warrants previously signed by the Justices of the Peace remain in effect but are suspended during this state of emergency. For the effective suspension, the Wilson County Sheriff's Office, Wilson County Constables, and all other law enforcement agencies are directed to relate this order to all law enforcement officers requesting confirmation of warrants, so that they are aware not to bring Class C defendants to the jail.  
Therefore, all warrants for misdemeanor Class C offenses from the Justices of the Peace are temporarily suspended until April 16, 2020. For the duration of this suspension, the Wilson County Sheriff's Office is ordered to not accept a defendant who solely has a Class C misdemeanor warrant from the Wilson County Justices of the Peace.
8. The Constables of Wilson County are authorized that they may not serve Justice Court papers if it is in their best discretion biased on the public's health and deputy constable's safety through April 16, 2020. Failure to serve papers based on this order shall not be considered by any court with regard to statute of limitations or diligent service analysis. The Constables of Wilson County must continue to serve Justice Court papers with regard to essential court proceedings in all instances.
9. Each Justice Court is authorized to limit building access to comply with any recommendations/orders from county public health officials regarding limiting the number of people in a public space or room, including but not limited to screening whether a person's business with the Justice Court falls into essential court business and limiting the hours a Justice Court is open to the public. If a Justice Court limits the hours it is open to the public, notice of such limitations shall be posted on the Justice Court's official website and at its main entrance.

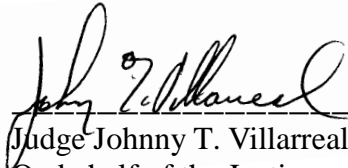
10. The Justices of the Peace are authorized to perform marriage ceremonies if to the best of their knowledge and using their discretion based on the public's health and maintaining the Justices of the Peace's safety.

11. All deadlines or statutes of limitation calculations are tolled effective March 18, 2020 to April 26, 2020.

This order shall be posted outside of each Justice Court and on each Justice Court's official website.

**The time periods in this order may be extended in a subsequent order if required.**

Re-Signed on March 23, 2020 at 8:00 AM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johnny T. Villarreal", is written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Judge Johnny T. Villarreal  
On behalf of the Justices of the Peace in Wilson County, TX