

2021-5

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**                    §                    **IN THE PROBATE COURTS**

2021-5    §    **OF**

    §    **DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS**

**ORDER TEMPORARILY MODIFYING COURT PROCEEDINGS  
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS**

ON THIS DAY, January 26, 2021, the Dallas County Probate Courts enter this order regarding temporary changes governing Court Proceedings of the Probate Courts, in the best interest of public safety.

Pursuant to the disaster declarations of Governor Greg Abbott, County Judge Clay Jenkins and the orders of the Supreme Court of Texas and the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas, including the Thirty-Third Emergency Order issued by the Supreme Court that renews the Twenty-Ninth Emergency Order and sets out the limitations and criteria for jury trial proceedings through April 1, 2021, the Probate Courts find it necessary to implement temporary measures to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19, on a temporary basis.

The modified procedures are as follows:

**Hearings**

1. No in-person hearings will be held prior to April 1, 2021 and then only upon certification and approval by the Texas Supreme Court, the Presiding Statutory Probate Court Judge and the local health authority.

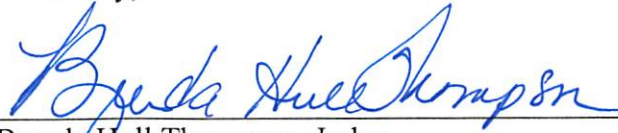
**Communications with the Court**

2. Outside of an emergency, all business with Court staff should be handled by telephone or email.

**Guardianships**

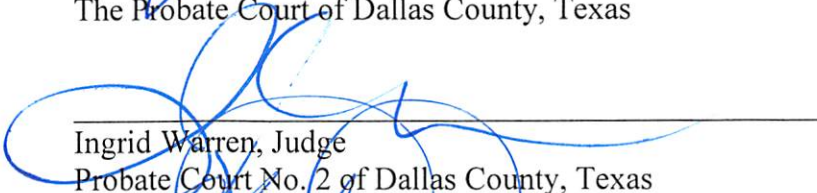
3. If guardianship letters are set to expire within the next 30 days, the Court will sign an order of extension upon written request and review.
4. Until further notice, no Court Investigator in-person visits will be made. Court investigators will instead make contact with individuals only by telephone or electronic means.

SO ORDERED the 26th day of January, 2021.



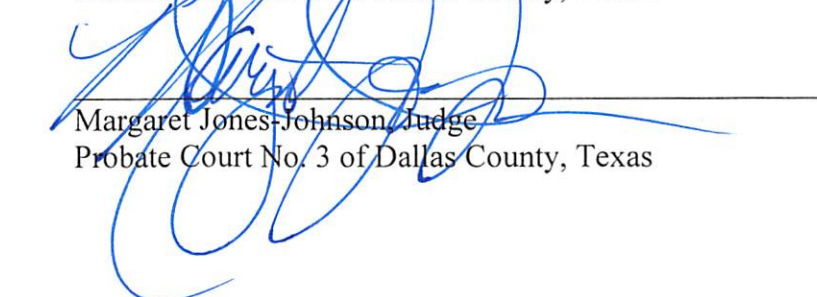
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Brenda Hull Thompson, Judge  
The Probate Court of Dallas County, Texas



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Ingrid Warren, Judge  
Probate Court No. 2 of Dallas County, Texas



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Margaret Jones-Johnson, Judge  
Probate Court No. 3 of Dallas County, Texas