

Dear Bar Members,

In response to the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 382nd, 439th, and CCL#1 are allowing business casual dress for pleas or prove-ups to prevent attorneys from having to pay for dry cleaning suits in order to disinfect after each court appearance. Please note that this is only allowed during the time Texas Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster.

Also during this declaration of state of disaster, divorce prove-ups may be submitted by affidavit pursuant to Texas Supreme Court's First Emergency Order Regarding the Covid-19 State of Disaster dated March 13, 2020. Along with an affidavit that can be e-filed, decrees need all parties' signatures with the additional language conveying consent to testimony by affidavit.

In addition, probate prove-ups may also be submitted by affidavit during the declaration of state disaster. All proofs of death and oaths should be submitted already signed and notarized. Attorneys should continue to contact the court to set a prove-up date. The orders will be signed on the date of the scheduled prove-up.

Brett Hall, District Judge
382nd Judicial District Court

David E. Rakow, District Judge
439th Judicial District Court

J. Brian Williams, Judge
Rockwall County Court at Law