



JUDGE CHAP B. CAIN III

253RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
LIBERTY COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1923 SAM HOUSTON
LIBERTY, TEXAS 77575
(936) 336-4668

June 2, 2021

To: Jennifer Bergman, District Attorney
Judge Jay Knight, County Judge

RE: Request from the 253rd District Court

The 253rd District Court is open for business, and if anyone comes to the courthouse that has business with the 253rd District Court, then courthouse security should follow the *Minimum Standards for the Liberty County Judiciary* and allow entrance to those who meet the "screening" requirements.

Please see that all courthouse security employees are aware of the open court policy of the 253rd District Court and the *Minimum Standards for the Liberty County Judiciary*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chap B. Cain, III".

Chap B. Cain, III
Judge Presiding, 253rd District Court



**MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE LIBERTY COUNTY JUDICIARY
DURING SUPREME COURT EMERGENCY ORDERS**

Recognizing the ongoing need to ensure the health and safety of litigants, attorneys, jurors, visitors, court staff, judges, and other individuals entering the buildings housing the courts, the courts of Liberty County will implement the following protective measures:

General

1. All judges will comply with the Emergency Orders issued by the Supreme Court of Texas and Court of Criminal Appeals.
2. All judges should, but are not required to, use reasonable efforts to conduct proceedings remotely.
3. Upon request and good cause shown, all judges are required to permit any court participant, other than a juror, to participate remotely in any proceeding, subject to constitutional limitations.
4. All judges will coordinate with each other to manage capacity issues and scheduling issues when conducting any in-person proceedings.

Minimum Health Protocols

1. All judges possess the broad inherent authority to control orderly proceedings in their courtrooms, and pursuant to that authority, they can require individuals in the courtroom to wear facial coverings. (See *Attorney General Opinion KP-0322*)
2. All social distancing protocols throughout all court buildings of at least 6 feet should be maintained or as published by the *State Department of Health Services*.

3. The maximum number of persons permitted in the gallery of each courtroom will be monitored and enforced by court staff.
4. Hand sanitizer dispensers, tissues, and any health information previously displayed throughout court buildings will remain in place.
5. All jury summons will include a COVID-19 questionnaire to be submitted in advance of any jury selection, and any request by a prospective juror who provides information confirming their COVID-19 infection or exposure or their particular vulnerability to COVID-19 will be excused or rescheduled for jury service.

Screening

1. When individuals attempt to enter the court building, the Security Checkpoint Officers will ask and/or require a screening form to determine if individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 10 days, have had symptoms of COVID-19 within the previous 10 days, or have had recent known exposure to COVID-19 within the previous 14 days. Individuals who indicate yes to any of these questions will be refused admittance to the court building.
2. When individuals attempt to enter the court building, Security Checkpoint Officers will use an infrared thermometer to determine the temperature of the individual. Individuals whose temperature equals or exceeds 100.0°F will be refused admittance to the court building.
3. Transport officers and inmates being transported from the jail to the court building will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and have their temperature taken prior to transport. Inmates with symptoms or a temperature equal to or above 99.6°F will not be transported to the court building.

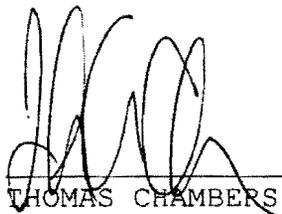
Cleaning

1. Court building cleaning staff will clean the common areas of the court building so that common spaces are cleaned frequently.

Adopted and effective this 7th day of April, 2021.



CHAP B. CAIN, III
LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT JUDGE
253RD DISTRICT COURT



4-6-21

THOMAS CHAMBERS
LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE STATUTORY JUDGE
COUNTY COURT AT LAW

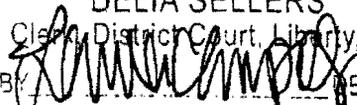


4/7/2021

JAY KNIGHT
COUNTY JUDGE
LIBERTY COUNTY, TEXAS

FILED
at 10:55 o'clock AM

APR 07 2021

DELIA SELLERS
Clerk, District Court, Liberty, TX
BY  DEPUTY