IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 20-9068

ORDER DELAYING EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENTS TO TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 116 AND 117 AND WEBSITE FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS

ORDERED that:

- Senate Bill 891, enacted by 86th Legislature, requires the Office of Court Administration to create a website for publishing citation by June 1, 2020, and directs the Court to establish procedures for the website by June 1, 2020. Act of May 27, 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., ch. 606 (SB 891).
- 2. On January 14, 2020, in Misc. Dkt. No. 20-9009, the Court preliminary approved amendments to Rules 116 and 117 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. The order made the amendments effective on June 1, 2020, after the expiration of a public-comment period.
- 3. The state of disaster in Texas due to the COVID-19 pandemic requires that the effective date of the website and rules amendments be extended to July 1, 2020.
- 4. Any Texas statute requiring or permitting citation by publication on the website or requiring the Office of Court Administration to generate a return of citation is suspended until July 1, 2020.
- 5. The Clerk of the Supreme Court is directed to:
 - a. post a copy of this Order on www.txcourts.gov;
 - b. file a copy of this Order with the Secretary of State; and
 - c. send a copy of this Order to the Governor, the Attorney General, and each member of the Legislature.

6. The State Bar of Texas is directed to take all reasonable steps to notify members of the Texas bar of this Order.

Dated: May 26, 2020

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice

uu Paul W. Green, Justice Guzman, Justice a M. Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice 2 John P. Devine, Justice Blacklock, Justice Jar Jusby, Justice N. Bland, Justice Jan