

WENDI S. PEARSON
CERTIFIED COURT MANAGER

KATHRYN L. KLAPP
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350th DISTRICT COURT

THOMAS M. WHEELER, JUDGE

TAYLOR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

300 OAK STREET, SUITE 404

ABILENE, TEXAS 79602

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December 23, 2020

Honorable Dean Rucker

Via: Email

Re: Second Request for Recertification of Taylor County's Operating Plan

Dear Judge Rucker:

After the conversation on December 22nd, I understand the following are the criteria under which in-person non-jury court proceedings will be allowed in Taylor County:

1. Any participant with a disability, who, because of that disability, cannot effectively participate by remote means, will be allowed to appear in-person with masking and social distancing measures in place.
2. Any participant who does not have sufficient internet access or capabilities or any participant who does not have access to equipment to establish communications by remote means, will be allowed to appear in-person with masking and social distancing measures in place.
3. In enforcement actions, where criminal contempt sanctions are possible, the Respondent (and not the Respondent's attorney) may be required to appear at a remote location located inside the courthouse.

In addition, I have reattached proof that our Local Health Authority had reviewed and approved our previously submitted request that covered the above-listed criteria

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas M. Wheeler". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas M. Wheeler

TMW/wsp