

GEORGE E. RISNER
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 2, PLACE 2
101 South Richey Street, Suite B, Pasadena, TX 77506 (713) 274-6100

PROTOCOL IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 November 15, 2021

Justice Court Precinct 2 Place 2 will continue to provide services to the citizens of Precinct 2 and Harris County using recommended and appropriate precautions and preventative measures to mitigate the risk of spreading infection from the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Every person appearing in Court or at the Court's offices is required to alert the Court in advance if the person has, or knows of another participant who (i) has COVID-19 or a fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea; or (ii) has recently been in close contact with a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19 or is exhibiting these symptoms.

When in the Court's lobby, offices, and courtroom, all persons should be prepared to wear a face mask that covers both the nose and the mouth, and to maintain recommended distancing. All persons may be required to answer certain health related questions and submit to temperature screening.

Court Hours. Court personnel are available during the Court's hours, 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Filings and Payments. All pleadings, motions, or other papers requiring a fee to be paid may be filed: (i) by using EFILETEXAS.gov, or (ii) by mailing to the Court, or (iii) by in person delivery to the Court before 4:00pm.

Any pleadings, motions, or other papers that do not require a fee, may be filed by fax, 713-437-4342 (Civil), 713-437-4344 (Criminal), by mail, by email to MYJP22@jp.hctx.net, or by in-person delivery to the Court.

Payments in criminal cases may be made through the Justice Court Precinct 2 Place 2 Website (Online Services) at: www.jp.hctx.net/2-2, or in-person, at the Court before 4:00pm.

Case Records. Criminal and civil case records may be viewed and accessed through the Justice Courts' Odyssey Portal, at: <https://odysseyportal.harriscountytexas.gov/OdysseyPortalJP>.

- Dockets are being scheduled to comply with courtroom occupancy and social distancing requirements.
- All proceedings will be conducted following minimum standard health protocols.
- Face coverings that cover both the nose and mouth, appropriate distancing, and recommended hygiene will be required.
- All documents to be offered as evidence should be filed at least 3 business days prior to the scheduled hearing and served on all other parties as provided in Rule 501.4. If documents are brought to Court on the date of the hearing, copies must be available for the Court and each party.

The Court may allow or require anyone involved in a proceeding to participate remotely, and if so, will furnish a date and instructions for the proceeding.

For problems participating remotely contact the court at myjp22@jp.hctx.net or by telephone, at 713-274-6100.

Jury Service and Jury Trials. Citizens are being summoned for jury service. Jury service and jury trials will follow recommended best practices, including health and distance standards, for safely conducting court proceedings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Evictions. State and local organizations continue to distribute money to help landlords and tenants with rent and other bills. Many of these programs take applications from both landlords and tenants.

For Harris County residents, information for rental assistance is available from the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program, at <https://houstonharrishelp.org/> or www.TexasLawHelp.org or by calling the Texas Legal Services Center at 855-270-7655.

Additional information is available at:

[Find Rental Assistance Programs in Your Area | Consumer Financial Protection Bureau \(consumerfinance.gov\).](#)

At the eviction trial, the Judge (i) will confirm whether or not the plaintiff has any pending applications for rental assistance or has provided any information or documentation directly to a rental assistance provider for the purpose of receiving rental assistance; and (ii) will advise the parties that rental assistance may be available in the Houston, Harris County area. The Court will ask the plaintiff and defendant whether they are interested in participating in a rental assistance program. If the plaintiff has a pending application for rental assistance or both parties express an interest in participating in rental assistance, the eviction proceeding will be abated for 60 days, the proceeding will be made confidential, and the Judge will inform the parties of extension, reinstatement and dismissal procedures.