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THE STATE OF TEXAS
EIGHTH ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIAL REGION OF TEXAS
ORDER EXTENDING TERMS OF COURTS

Virginia Dickson
DISTRICT CLERK
SOMERVELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY SM DEPUTY


Whereas, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas; and

Whereas, the Supreme Court of Texas and the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas ("the Courts") have issued emergency orders related to the administration of justice during the state of disaster, including ordering all Texas courts to modify or suspend all deadlines and procedures when appropriate to avoid risk to staff, parties, attorneys, jurors and the public, and prohibiting courts from conducting non-essential proceedings in person contrary to local, state, or national directives, whichever is most restrictive, regarding maximum group size; and

Whereas, impaneling a grand jury would result in the gathering of large groups of individuals inconsistent with local directives regarding appropriate measures to avoid the transmission of COVID-19 and would risk the health of those called to grand jury duty and court staff;

Now therefore, pursuant to Section 24.0125 of the Texas Government Code and with the approval of the judge of the 249th District Court, it is ordered that the current term of the 249th District Court is hereby extended until December 31, 2020.

SIGNED this 26th day of May, 2020



David L. Evans, Presiding Judge
Eighth Administrative Judicial Region