

DEBORAH OAKES EVANS
JUDGE



ELLEN EARLES
OFFICIAL REPORTER
earles.ellen@gmail.com

EIGHTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

ANDERSON, FREESTONE, LEON AND LIMESTONE COUNTIES
P. O. BOX 230
Groesbeck, Texas 76642
(254) 729-5705

December 21, 2020

Dr. Brandi Ricard
Anderson County Local Health Authority
Via email: bricard@youreasttexasdr.com

Dear Dr. Ricard:

As the Local Administrative Judge, this letter is to confirm that I have consulted with you to review the previously submitted COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Courts of Anderson County, Texas. Additionally, we have discussed current local pandemic conditions and appropriate precautions for any in-person proceedings. By signing below, you are confirming this consultation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Oakes Evans".

Deborah Oakes Evans
87th District Judge, Anderson County

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Brandi Ricard".
Dr. Brandi Ricard
DOE/cs

RECERTIFICATION OF COVID-19 OPERATING PLAN FOR THE COURTS OF
ANDERSON COUNTY, TEXAS

The "COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Courts of Anderson County, Texas" and "Jury Proceeding Addendum to COVID-19 Operating Plan for the Anderson County Judiciary" remains in effect until otherwise Ordered. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

- 1) The Trial Court will use all reasonable efforts to conduct all proceedings remotely, unless the litigants or other court participants are unable to successfully participate in a remote proceeding.
- 2) Objective criteria will be used to determine when an in-person proceeding is necessary and when all reasonable efforts do not permit the proceeding to be conducted remotely. Objective criteria to be utilized includes:
 - A. Inability of parties to participate due to a disability or lack of technology.
 - B. Hearings or bench trials expected to last more than two hours.
 - C. Insufficient internet access of participants or Court.
 - D. When necessary to comply with confrontation clause.
 - E. Lack of staff or equipment in jail facility to enable remote contact.
 - F. When language barriers require an interpreter.
 - G. When a Defendant does not have an attorney of record and may need to apply for Court Appointed counsel.

12/21/20

Date: _____



Deborah Oakes Evans
87th Judicial District Court
Anderson County Local Administrative District Judge

From: Alfonso Charles <Alfonso.Charles@co.gregg.tx.us>

Date: December 29, 2020 at 3:52:04 PM CST

To: Cindy Singletary <csingletary@co.anderson.tx.us>

Cc: Terri Shepherd <Terri.Shepherd@co.gregg.tx.us>, Deborah Oakes Evans <judge87th@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: COVID RECERTIFICATION PLAN-Anderson County

Sorry for the delay. The Anderson County Recertification Plan is approved and you all are ready to go effective January 1. As I said in the Leon and Freestone plans, your plan is really thought out and I have used it as an example for some other counties. Thanks again. Your plan has already been sent to OCA.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Alfonso

Judge Alfonso Charles
Presiding Judge 10th Administrative Judicial Region
101 East Methvin Street, Suite 447
Longview, TX 75601

(903) 236-1748