

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON AND GALVESTON DIVISIONS

United States District Court
Southern District of Texas
ENTERED

MAR 17 2020

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court
By Deputy Clerk 

IN RE: RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS §
TO THE HOUSTON AND GALVESTON §
U. S. COURTHOUSES DURING THE § SPECIAL ORDER H-2020-7
COVID-19 PANDEMIC §

The Centers for Disease Control and public health authorities have asked people to take precautions and reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus. The court ORDERS, effective immediately, that the following persons may not enter the Houston Division U. S. Courthouse or the Galveston Division U. S. Courthouse of the Southern District of Texas:

- persons who, in the last 14 days, have been in any of the countries covered by the Level 3 Travel Health Notice on COVID-19 from the Centers for Disease Control, including those listed on signs at the entrance to each courthouse;
- persons who reside or have had close contact with someone who has been in one of the countries listed above within the last 14 days;
- persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital or health agency;
- persons who have been diagnosed with, or have had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; and
- persons with fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

Anyone meeting any of the criteria in this Order may be denied entry to the courthouse or any part of the courthouse by a Court Security Officer or Deputy Marshal.

If you have a scheduled hearing or other appointment, or you are otherwise required to appear at either courthouse, and you are unable to do so because of the restrictions listed above, you should proceed as follows:

- if you are represented by an attorney, contact your attorney;
- if you are an attorney and you are scheduled to appear in court before a judge, contact the Clerk of Court at 713-250-5500;
- if you are scheduled to meet with a Probation or Pretrial Services Officer, contact the office of Probation and Pretrial Services at 713-250-5266;
- if you are a juror, contact the Jury Department at 713-250-5500;
- for Court of Appeals matters, contact Lyle Cayce, Clerk of Court, at 504-310-7700;
- for District and Bankruptcy Court matters, contact the Clerk of Court at 713-250-5500;
- for case-specific matters, contact the case manager for that court;
- for the United States Trustee, call 713-718-4650; or
- for all other matters, contact the District Clerk's Executive Office at 713-250-5400.

These restrictions will remain in place until it is determined to be safe to remove them. People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

Signed this 17th day of March, 2020.



LEE H. ROSENTHAL
CHIEF JUDGE