

March 20, 2020 Procedures of Juvenile Division, Tulsa County District Court Implemented to Comply with Oklahoma Supreme Court and Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals SCAD No. 2020-24, First Emergency Joint Order

The following procedures are implemented to facilitate social distancing necessitated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The goal is to minimize risks to court personnel, persons who serve the court, families and children served by the Court, and the public while conducting constitutionally required court proceedings.

The following list of procedures is subject to immediate change as the public health crisis evolves and situations develop that have not been contemplated as of this time. The Juvenile Division court team including DHS staff will continue to communicate issues and concerns related to the listed procedures and additional necessary procedures.

Pending resolution of the public health crisis, persons who do not have a case with the court, any pending business with the court, and are not seeking emergency relief from the court should not enter the Family Justice Center.

Persons Prohibited from Entering Family Center for Juvenile Justice

1. Persons who have been diagnosed with or have direct contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19.
2. Persons with symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, severe cough, or shortness of breath.
3. Persons who have, or who live with or have close contact with persons who have, traveled to any country outside of the U.S. in the past 14 days.
4. Persons who are quarantined or isolated by any doctor or who voluntarily quarantine.

If you fall within one of these categories and are scheduled for a court appearance or are seeking emergency relief, contact your attorney, and if you have no attorney, call the court clerk's office for the Family Center for Juvenile Justice at 918-596-5913

Delinquent/Detention

1. Filing dockets for the next thirty days will be set out to May.
2. Detention hearings will be conducted in Courtroom 1 without juveniles present but allowed to participate via telephone. Only parents/guardian may appear in the courtroom; no unnecessary family members or friends. Parents/guardians who fall within any of the categories of Persons Prohibited from Entering Family Center for Juvenile Justice may not appear and are directed to contact their attorney or the court clerk at 918-596-5913. DHS workers and others will be allowed to appear via telephone.
3. Surrender hearings should be coordinated without juvenile's and parents' appearances through child's attorney or child's in-take or probation counselor; child's attorney or the counselor will obtain a court date from the court clerk and Judge will recall warrants pending appearance at future date.
4. Absent information of an "emergency" by in-take, probation, APD or other attorney, all delinquent cases, excepting those related to delinquents who are in detention, set over the next thirty days will be continued for approximately thirty days.
5. Docketed matters for detained juveniles will proceed as scheduled with DHS and other interested persons appearing via telephone and allowing only parents/guardian to

appear. Arrangements to be made for detained juveniles to appear via telephone. Juvenile's attorney may file an objection.

6. Detention visitation and interviews are discontinued. Reasonable telephonic visitation with parents allowed. CWS to contact Detention Main Control to set up time for telephone contact with child. CPS, attorneys, APDs to contact Detention Main Control to make arrangements for private calls with child.

Deprived

1. Removals. CPS will email affidavit, application, reasonable efforts statement to DHS court liaisons who will print and submit to DA and Judge. See Okla. Statutes, Title 12, Section 426 for "penalty of perjury" statement in lieu of notarization.
2. Show Cause/Adjudication hearings. DHS may appear via telephone to provide testimony and must provide phone numbers to reach parents.
3. Filing Announcements. CWS will appear via telephone and must in advance of the announcement provide information of placement, family time for parents and siblings, referrals made for families, children's health concerns, and other necessary information to DHS liaisons to report to the Court.
4. Reviews will be continued for thirty days.
5. Permanency Hearings. DHS and CASA to submit reports to all parties and attorneys a week before the hearing via secure email. Attorneys are to file objections as needed before the day of the Permanency Hearing. Court to render decisions based on reports and objections by minute order.
6. Safe Baby Court staffing/review. SBC will utilize Zoom video conferencing for staffings. Reviews to be continued for thirty days.
7. Family Treatment Court. Staffings to be conducted via teleconference. FTC team to continue to monitor sobriety. Participating parents in FTC will not appear for hearings unless advised otherwise by FTC team.
8. Foster parents and children not to appear in Court.

INT

1. Initial INT Hearings. Child appears via telephone, Facetime, Skype, or similar method. Child's attorney must file a motion for child to appear in person. CWS may appear via telephone.
2. INT Review. DHS to submit reports to all parties and attorneys via secure email three days before hearing. Child appears via telephone, Facetime, Skype, or similar method. Child's attorney must file a motion for child to appear in person. CWS may appear via telephone.

Adoptions

1. Adoption finalization hearing will be conducted via skype, Facetime, or similar methods with adoptive parents and child(ren) not appearing in Court. Adoptive parent's attorney to appear in Court with finalization pleadings, orders to present to Judge. DHS and tribal representatives to appear via telephone to provide testimony.

Martha Rupp Carter
District Judge
Chief, Juvenile Division