

Judge John W. Burns

Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4

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March 18, 2020

Justice Court 4 to Reschedule Currently Scheduled Trials and Hearings

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: *All civil and criminal cases currently scheduled for trial or hearing in the Hays County Justice Court, Precinct 4 (essentially Dripping Springs and northern Hays County), will be rescheduled to May 15, 2020 or later.*

Governor Abbot has declared a state disaster in response to the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequently, both the Texas Supreme Court and Hays County Judge Ruben Becerra issued emergency orders that impact this Court's docket. In a nutshell, all trials and court hearings must be postponed until at least May 15, 2020 to avoid risk to court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors and the public. Because the Precinct 4 court room will be used for early voting for the May run-off election, most cases will be reset to May 27 or later.

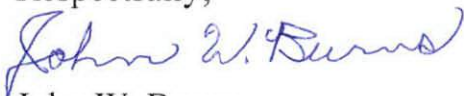
The Precinct 4 Justice Court office will remain open to take calls and help walk in customers. It is highly recommended that customers use the online service or call before coming to the court in person. Citations (tickets) may be paid online at: <https://govpay.net/hays-county-tx-jp4>. Citations may also be paid over the phone with a credit card by calling (512) 858-7446.

If you are scheduled for a pre-trial conference with a District Attorney for a traffic citation or other criminal matter, please contact our office for further instructions.

After your trial or hearing date has been rescheduled, you will receive notice in the mail of your new date, if you have not already been contacted by phone or email. No default judgments or warrants for failure to appear will be issued for dates between today, March 18, 2020, and Thursday, May 14, 2020.

My sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. In face of the current coronavirus threat, I truly believe this action is in the best interest of the public. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Respectfully,



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