

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
IN AND FOR  
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

IN RE:

GENERAL ORDER

TARGETED VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

NO. 20-04

**ORDER**

In response to Centers for Disease Control advisements to take precautions regarding the COVID-19 virus (coronavirus) outbreak by limiting exposure to the virus, while also being mindful that the court facilities within the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas (EDTX) are public buildings in which the public is welcomed, EDTX will enforce the following targeted visitor restrictions effectively immediately and through May 1, 2020.

**IT IS ORDERED**, effective immediately, that the following persons shall not enter any United States Courthouse or Bankruptcy Court within EDTX:

- Persons who have traveled to any of the following countries within the preceding 14 days: People’s Republic of China, South Korea, Japan, Iran, or Western Europe.
- Persons who reside or have had close contact with someone who has traveled to one of the countries listed above within the preceding 14 days.

- Persons who a medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, hospital or public health agency has directed to self-quarantine, during such period of self-quarantining.
- Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and who have not obtained express medical verification as now being non-communicative/non-contagious from a medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, hospital or public health agency.
- Persons who present for entry to any such court facility and exhibit fever, cough or shortness of breath.

**IT IS ORDERED** that all Court Security Officers acting within EDTX (CSOs), following substantive guidance from this Order and administrative guidance from the United States Marshal for EDTX, shall deny entry to anyone attempting to enter any such court facility in violation of these protocols. In the event of any uncertainty as to a person's ability to gain entrance to a court facility hereunder, the CSOs shall immediately contact the U. S. Marshal for EDTX or his designated Deputy Marshal for a determination, which shall control.


If you are scheduled or required to appear in district court, magistrate court or bankruptcy court during the period of this order and you are unable to gain entry because of these targeted visitor restrictions, you should proceed as follows:

- If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney.

- If you are an attorney scheduled to appear in court before a judge, please contact the respective Chambers directly by telephone. Telephone contact information for the District Court is available at: <http://www.txed.uscourts.gov/>. Telephone contact information for the Bankruptcy Court is available at: <https://www.txeb.uscourts.gov/>.
- If you are scheduled to meet with a probation or pretrial services officer, please contact the Probation and Pretrial Services Office directly for guidance and instructions.
- For any other District Court matters, please contact the EDTX Clerk of Court at (903) 590.1111 in Tyler, Texas or the Deputy Clerk in Charge within the applicable division.
- For any other Bankruptcy Court matters, please contact the Clerk of Court at (903) 590.3200.

**IT IS ORDERED** that, unless extended by subsequent order, these restrictions shall remain in place until May 1, 2020, when they shall automatically expire. The U. S. Marshal for EDTX shall promptly secure the prominent posting of this order at the main entrance to all court facilities within EDTX.

FOR THE COURT this 18th day of March, 2020.

  
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RODNEY GILSTRAP  
Chief Judge