

## General Scheduling Order

Revision Effective April 1, 2021

COUNTY CRIMINAL  
COURT AT LAW # 8

HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

The Court schedules each case using four-letter codes instructing counsel what must be completed in advance of the date associated with that code. For every case pending in this Court, the following schedule applies unless otherwise ordered:

| <b>Date Type</b>                          | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Default Reset</b>  | <b>Appear in Court?</b> |
|---|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ARRG</b><br><i>Arraignment</i>         | First appearance by counsel or defendant.<br><br><b>When the defendant is not in custody:</b><br>If hired counsel files an Attorney of Record form by the business day before this setting, the case will be automatically reset.  | +60 days<br>MOTN      | Yes                     |
| <b>MOTN</b><br><i>Motions</i>             | Cases set for MOTN will be automatically reset by the Court unless either party requests that the case be kept on the docket by the third business day before the setting.<br><br>The Court will review conditions of bond at this setting and remove conditions as appropriate. If any party objects to the removal of any condition of bond, a written motion to retain certain bond conditions must be filed by the third business day before this setting. | +60 days<br>NTRL      | No                      |
| <b>NTRL</b><br><i>Non-trial</i>           | Cases set for NTRL will be automatically reset by the Court unless either party requests that the case be kept on the docket by the business day before the setting.<br><br>The Court will review conditions of bond at this setting and remove conditions as appropriate. If any party objects to the removal of any condition of bond, a written motion to retain certain bond conditions must be filed by the third business day before this setting.       | +60 days<br>DISP      | No                      |
| <b>DISP</b><br><i>Disposition</i>         | The Court will automatically reset cases set for disposition unless there is a matter requiring the Court's attention filed by the third business day before this setting.   | +60 days<br>PTCR      | No                      |
| <b>PTCR</b><br><i>Pretrial Conference</i> | Counsel must appear and be ready to set the case for trial.  | Jury trial or<br>PTMO | Only lawyers            |
| <b>PTMO</b><br><i>Pretrial Motions</i>    | Hearing under Article 28.01 of the Code of Criminal Procedure  | Jury trial            | Yes                     |

## **Pretrial Interventions**

When the defendant is requesting a pretrial intervention (PTI) from the State, defense counsel may inform the court coordinator that the PTI application is pending. In that case, the case will be set for DPIH (DWI PTI Hearing) or PTIH (Pretrial Intervention Hearing) and reset automatically every 30 days, until the State either offers or rejects a PTI. When the State or defendant rejects a PTI, the case will be placed back on the standard scheduling order at the Court's discretion.

## **Pleas**

The Court has extremely limited capacity for pleas of guilty at this time. All pleas of guilty must be scheduled in advance with the Court. Guilty pleas will not be heard unless scheduled in advance. When counsel requests a PLEA setting for a plea of guilty, counsel must have the desired days ready to present to the judge or court coordinator—do not ask the Court to pick the day for a PLEA setting.

## **Hearings with Testimony**

The Court encourages counsel to litigate issues on the merits before trial, such as suppression and discovery issues. To schedule a matter for a hearing with testimony, counsel should file the matter to be heard, confer with opposing counsel about when the matter should be heard, and then contact the court coordinator to schedule the matter for a HEAR (Hearing) setting.



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Judge Franklin Bynum