

MAR 16 2020

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court  
By Deputy Clerk AMGP

In re:

Implementation of Alternative  
Procedures for Conducting Chapter 13  
Panel Hearings

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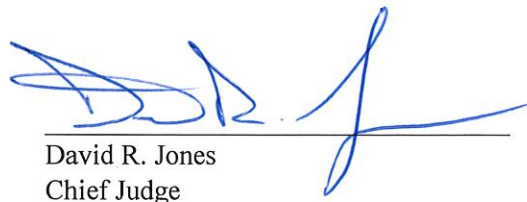
General Order 2020-5

**ORDER FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR  
CONDUCTING CHAPTER 13 PANEL HEARINGS**

In its continuing effort to address public concern about the Coronavirus and protect all parties that appear before it, the Court implements, effective immediately, the following procedures to be used in all chapter 13 panel hearings between the date of this Order and April 30, 2020.

1. Debtors are urged to not to attend panel hearings in person. Debtors are encouraged to participate telephonically in panel hearings. Each judge will activate its conference line for the entirety of the chapter 13 panel hearing. Debtors do not need prior permission to participate telephonically.
2. Debtors' counsel and the chapter 13 trustee (or its counsel) will appear in accordance with the presiding judge's normal practice unless otherwise ordered.
3. Contested hearings to consider (i) confirmation of a proposed plan; or (ii) approval of a proposed modification that require evidence will be continued, if possible, to a date after April 30.
4. Counsel that are not feeling well should not personally appear and should notify the Court's case manager of their particular situation. The Court will make every effort to provide adequate accommodation.

March 16, 2020.

  
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David R. Jones  
Chief Judge