## DE WITT COUNTY COURT COURT RULES FOR REMOTE HEARINGS

The Governor has declared a state of emergency and the Office of Court Administration (OCA) has suggested that all non-critical court proceedings should be suspended. However, technology and state law allows options not previously available. As such, DeWitt County Court will continue to conduct hearings if the parties have the technology and desire to do so. The following restrictions and limitations will apply but should be similar to what is required for an in-person hearing. Any requests for a courtroom hearing will be considered but likely postponed. It is anticipated most parties will agree to a "virtual" hearing.

## FOR THE PUBLIC:

The Open Courts provision of Texas law allows all Texans access to court proceedings. As such the proceedings are available through the internet for public viewing at <u>YouTube.com</u> by searching under "DeWitt County Court" and selecting same. Any questions regarding viewing the proceedings may be directed to the County Judge's Office at 361-275-0916.

The public may view or listen to proceedings but **VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**