

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Brandon S. Wood



P.O. Box 12985  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Voice: (512) 463-5505  
Fax: (512) 463-3185  
<http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us>  
info@tcjs.state.tx.us

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** ALL Sheriffs, County Judges and Jail Administrators  
**FROM:** Brandon S. Wood, Executive Director *Brandon S. Wood*  
**Date:** May 22, 2020  
**RE:** Suspension of In-Person Visits by Executive Order GA-25

Counties must continue limiting visitation to attorneys and religious leaders or members of the clergy only. Due to the close quarters and inability to comply with social distancing recommendations, every precaution should be taken to limit potential exposure. For those persons allowed to visit a jail as provided for by GA-25, the following steps shall be taken:

1. Consult with your Local Health Department;
2. Implement all recommendations provided by LHD and establish a plan for modified visitation.
3. This plan shall include:
  - a. Symptoms screening of all visitors;
  - b. Adequate staging area for visitors to limit congregate levels
  - c. Provision of masks for visitors;
  - d. Social distancing established for visitation areas, public and inmate side;
  - e. Disinfecting procedures after each visitor;
  - f. Non-contact and video visitation only, no contact visits;
  - g. Due to limited capacity after social distancing is implemented, it is recommended that you have visitors check in and return at a designated time to limit excessive wait times.

Judge Bill Stoudt, Longview, Chair  
Dr. Esmail Porsa, M.D., Parker, Vice-Chair  
Melinda E. Taylor, Austin

Sheriff Dennis D. Wilson, Groesbeck  
Sheriff Kelly Rowe, Lubbock  
Patricia M. Anthony, Garland

Commissioner Ben Perry, Waco  
Duane Lock, Southlake  
Monica McBride, Alpine

"The Commission on Jail Standards welcomes all suggestions and will promptly respond to all complaints directed against the agency or any facilities under its purview".

To empower local government to provide safe, secure and suitable local jail facilities through proper rules and procedures while promoting innovative programs and ideas