# County of Comanche

Gary "Corky" Underwood Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

#### **Russell Gillette**

Commissioner, Precinct No.2



Sherman Sides Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

**Jimmy Dale Johnson** Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

# Stephanie L. Davis—County Judge

101 W. Central Comanche, TX 76442-3299 Phone: 325-356-2466 or 2773 Fax: 325-356-3710

# **RULES OF DECORUM**

Under the inherent power and duty of all Texas courts as codified in Section 21.002, Government Code, the following Rules of Decorum have been adopted on January 1, 2019 and shall apply and govern all proceedings before the Comanche County Court in Comanche, Texas.

### CONDUCT

The Court and its staff and personnel shall make the utmost effort to treat all persons having business in the Court with dignity and respect and to respond to all proper requests in an efficient and professional manner.

All litigants and the issues raised in their respective cases shall be addressed in an impartial and professional manner without bias and with concern for the fair and just resolution of the merits of the dispute.

All attorneys and parties should always be on time for Court appointments or sessions.

Order shall be maintained at all times. Violation of this or any rule can result in a reprimand by the Judge, expulsion from courtroom or contempt of court, which could result in a FINE AND/OR 3 DAYS IN JAIL.

The court discourages bringing small children to court appearances; however, should they appear, they must remain under constant parental supervision.

No person shall bring backpacks, packages, purses, suitcases, boxes, duffel bags, shopping bags, or any containers into the courtroom without the prior search and approval of the bailiff. At the discretion of Court Security (Bailiff) any persons entering the courts may be subject to a pat search at any time and inspection of any items carried into the courtroom.

Rise when the Judge enters and remain standing until the Judge or Bailiff announces "Be seated", or until the Judge is seated. Rise when the Judge exits the Courtroom and while addressing the Court or jury.

Do not approach the Judge's bench without permission.

Do not lean on the Judge's bench.

Do not speak or interrupt the Judge when the Judge is speaking.

A party should not by facial expression, nodding, nor other conduct exhibit any opinion, adverse or favorable, concerning any testimony which is being given by a witness. The attorney should privately admonish his or her own clients and witnesses to avoid such conduct.

No propping of feet on tables or chairs is permitted.

No person shall be permitted any verbal or physical contact with a prisoner without the prior approval of the bailiff.

Jokes and remarks with sexual content, or jokes and remarks that play on sexual stereotypes, shall be avoided as they are out of place in the courthouse setting.

#### WEAPONS

For your safety, weapons of all types (guns, chemical spray, knives, etc.) are NOT PERMITTED in the courtroom unless you are a member of law enforcement in the discharge of your duties. Having a concealed handgun permit is NOT an exception to this rule.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Computers/Tablets/iPads/Cell Phones/ Pagers)

It is strongly recommended that you leave cell phones and pagers in your vehicle. If this is not possible, these devices must be placed on silent mode. Use of cell phones, pagers, computers, tablets and iPads in the Courtroom is prohibited (except for use by counsel or court personnel). Failure to obey this rule may result in the Bailiff confiscating your electronic device during the proceedings.

#### ATTIRE

All persons present in the Courtroom shall be dressed in a manner that shows dignity and respect for the Court. The following is NOT appropriate dress:

- Sunglasses
- Hats/Caps
- Shorts/cut-offs
- Tank Tops/Halter Tops/Tube Tops/T-shirts/Spaghetti Straps
- Mini-Skirts
- · Baggy-Saggy Pants/Pajama Top or Bottoms
- Flip-Flop Shoes
- · Shirts with violent or offensive logos, pictures or writings
- · Provocative clothing designed or worn to provoke emotion or disruption
- · Spandex or see-through clothing

#### **ITEMS PROHIBITED IN COURTROOM**

- Weapons of any type (guns, chemical spray, knives, etc.)
- Use of any type of video or audio recording device/camera/cell phones/pagers (except for those utilized by the court or court personnel)
- · Computers/iPads/Tablets (except for those used by counsel and court personnel)
- Food/drinks (except for water at counsel and court personnel tables)
- Inappropriate attire (see above)
- · Use of Tobacco Products in any form

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FILED AT<u>9:00</u> O'CLOCK A M

JAN 9 2019

Clerk, County Court Comanche Co., Texas

Hon. Stephanie L. Davis Comanche County Judge