Cause No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| THE STATE OF TEXAS |  | IN THE COUNTY COURT |
| v. |  | AT LAW NO. 2 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  | WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS |

**CRIMINAL PRETRIAL PREPARATION ORDER**

The above numbered and styled case having been assigned for trial, the Court hereby **ORDERS** attorneys for the State and the Defense to comply with the following:

1. All motions regarding Pretrial matters, save and except for motions in limine, election of punishment and election for community supervision, must be filed no later than seven (7) days prior to the Pretrial hearing. All untimely filed Pretrial matters will not be considered by this Court unless the movant can show good cause for failing to timely file. (This especially includes suppression issues).

2. All exhibits, including all documents and photographs, will be marked on the lower right front of the item in an unobtrusive location. Exhibits with multiple pages will be tightly clipped or stapled at the upper left edge.

3. All anticipated exhibits of a party will be listed on an Exhibit List, with exhibit number, brief description of the item, and a column for whether admitted or not. A copy of the Exhibit List and a Witness List shall be provided prior to trial to the Court Reporter, opposing counsel and the Court.

4. Pretrial and Discovery issues that have not been resolved at the Pretrial hearing will not be grounds for continuance except for good cause.

5. The Court’s Mutual Motion in Limine shall be followed. Other Motions in Limine from both sides, as well as defense election of punishment and application for community supervision, shall be filed on or before the day of trial and delivered to opposing counsel. Both sides shall meet with the Court at least 30-minutes before the Jury is seated to discuss such matters as may need to be addressed.

6. Counsel shall deliver Applications for Subpoena of witnesses to the County Clerk at least Six (6) calendar days before the assigned trial date, except for surprise or unanticipated rebuttal witnesses.

7. In the event witnesses are placed Under the Rule counsel shall have all witnesses identified to the Court and sworn at the earliest opportunity, preferably prior to opening statements. For witnesses not present at the beginning of trial, counsel shall be responsible for instructing those witnesses of the requirements of the Rule and shall certify to the Court that such instructions have been given.

8. Counsel shall familiarize themselves with the operation of technical equipment in the courtroom and be ready to use it without undue disruption of trial proceedings.

9. All digital recordings shall be offered into evidence before the jury formatted as follows: for audio, in MP3; for video, in MP4; for photographs and documents, portable document format (pdf).

10. ***Voir Dire*** is limited to **45 minutes per side**, except for leave of Court. A 5-minute notice will be given.

11. Counsel shall familiarize themselves with the Court’s website. ***The Texas Lawyer’s Creed*** and additional rules found on the court website, will dictate the decorum of the courtroom and all involved in these proceedings.

SIGNED and entered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Elton R. Mathis, Judge Presiding