IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 20-9086

TWENTIETH EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER

ORDERED that:

- 1. Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. This Order is issued pursuant to Section 22.0035(b) of the Texas Government Code.
- 2. Paragraph 3 of the Fifteenth Emergency Order (Misc. Dkt. No. 20-9066), issued May 14, 2020, is renewed as amended.
- 3. For all eviction proceedings filed from March 27, 2020, through August 24, 2020, a sworn original, amended, or supplemental petition containing "a description of the facts and grounds for eviction" required by Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 510.3(a)(2) must state whether or not:
 - a. the premises is a "covered dwelling" subject to Section 4024 of the CARES Act;
 - b. the plaintiff is a "multifamily borrower" under forbearance subject to Section 4023 of the CARES Act; and
 - c. the plaintiff has provided the defendant with 30 days' notice to vacate under Sections 4024(c) and 4023(e) of the CARES Act.
- 4. A judge continues to have the authority under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 500.6 to develop the facts of the case, including whether or not the premises is a "covered dwelling" and the plaintiff is a "multifamily borrower" under forbearance subject to Sections 4024 and 4023 of the CARES Act, respectively.

- 5. This Order is effective immediately and expires August 24, 2020, unless extended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
 - 6. The Clerk of the Supreme Court is directed to:
 - a. post a copy of this Order on www.txcourts.gov;
 - b. file a copy of this Order with the Secretary of State; and
 - c. send a copy of this Order to the Governor, the Attorney General, and each member of the Legislature.
- 7. The State Bar of Texas is directed to take all reasonable steps to notify members of the Texas bar of this Order.

Dated: July 21, 2020

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Blacklock, Justice