STANDING ORDER REGARDING USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Wise County District Court and County Courts at Law

This Standing Order of the District Court and County Courts at Law of Wise County applies to every pending or hereafter filed case in the District Court and County Courts at Law of Wise County. Nothing in this Order should be construed as relieving an attorney or self-represented litigant of any legal or ethical obligation required by law, statute, or rule, including rules of procedure, evidence, or the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

Generative artificial intelligence systems (such as ChatGPT, Harvey.AI, Claude, Google Copilot, OpenAI, Bing, Lexis+ AI, Westlaw AI-Assisted Research, Ask Practical Law AI, and others) are being incorporated into common professional use. The abilities of these systems vary widely depending on the application, version, and underlying technology used. While technology is developing quickly, it is currently unreliable, prone to bias, and may fabricate information. The creators of these systems are not attorneys of record, licensed and in good standing to practice law in the State of Texas, and are not bound by the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

WHEREAS the signing of a pleading or motion in Texas certifies that each claim, defense, or other legal contention in the pleading or motion is warranted by existing law or by a non-frivolous argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law or the establishment of new law;

WHEREAS courts have the inherent power to sanction parties for violation of rules, orders, standing orders, and statutory obligations; and

WHEREAS a court on its own initiative may direct a court participant to show cause why his or her conduct has not violated a rule, order, standing order, or statutory obligation;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDDERED THAT:

All self-represented litigants and attorneys who utilize any form of artificial intelligence for legal research, drafting, or analysis in connection with a case before this Court shall, before using any AI-generated information in a court submission or proceeding, sign and submit the attached certification form, stating that:

1. All language, quotations, sources, citations, arguments, and legal analysis created or contributed to by generative artificial intelligence were, before submission, verified as accurate through traditional (non-AI) legal sources by a human being; and

2. The attorney or self-represented litigant submitting such information understands and acknowledges that they are and will be held responsible and potentially sanctioned for their own, their staff's, or their co-counsel's failure to comply with this Order.

This Order is effective immediately for all cases filed or pending in the Wise County District Court and County Courts at Law. This Order remains in effect until rescinded or replaced by the District Courts and County Courts at Law of Wise County and may be modified or amended at any time.

The Wise County District Clerk is directed to file this Order with the Office of the Court Administration, to post it in the county administrative orders, and to ensure that the file-marked copy is posted as a Public Notice at the County Courthouse and on the Wise County District Court and County Courts at Law website.

SIGNED ON THIS 5th day of May, 2026.

Judge Brock R. Smith
271st District Court

Judge Greg Lowery
County Court at Law #1

Judge Dana D. Manoushagian
County Court at Law #2