

STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION

of the

TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL

**Public Trust and Confidence Committee Judicial Emergency Management Readiness
Recommendation**

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council is the policymaking body for the Texas Judicial Branch, created under Chapter 71, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Council is charged with improving the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, the Public Trust and Confidence Committee is charged with reviewing comprehensive all-hazard emergency management plans for the judiciary and recommending any necessary reforms; and

WHEREAS, in March 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas issued an order creating the Task Force for Judicial Emergency Preparedness (replacing the Task Force to Ensure Judicial Readiness in Times of Emergency); and

WHEREAS, the Task Force was charged with reviewing and assessing the 2008 Interim Plan to Ensure Judicial Readiness in Times of Emergency (Interim Plan) to determine the extent to which the judiciary should continue to use the Interim Plan as a means to ensure judicial emergency readiness; and

WHEREAS, in its 2017 Report, the Task Force concluded that the 2008 Interim Plan was a good starting point to perform its functions despite disruptive events, but that the Interim Plan framework should be built upon with specific statewide measures and locally developed planning measures; and

WHEREAS, to boost continuity capability, locally developed planning measures should include an all-hazard emergency management plan filed with the local county emergency management liaison, which should be reviewed as a living document to address updates, strategies, and best practices;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas Judicial Council recommends that the Legislature amend various statutes to require Local Court Security Committees to implement an all-hazards plan for local courts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan L. Hecht", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Nathan L. Hecht
Chair, Texas Judicial Council