



LAW LIBRARY NEWS

a publication of the Fort Bend County Law Library

March 2022 ♦ Volume 30, Issue 2

Lexis Nexis CLE

The Law Library will be hosting another **Lexis Nexis CLE** in April. The class is on Wednesday, **April 6 at 2 pm**. The class is entitled ***“The Ethics of AI and Legal Analytics.”*** During this session we will answer this question and review general trends in artificial intelligence, including the mechanisms by which this data is being used by legal professionals. The class will be virtual and registration is required. To register, please visit our website at www.fortbend.lib.tx.us. The link will be sent out prior to the program.

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New & Updated Resources

Texas Litigation Guide

- Release 144
- 2022 Update

How to Recover Attorney's Fees in Texas

- 2022 Edition

Deposition Checklists and Strategies

- 2021 Edition

Texas Transaction Guide

- Release 135
- 2022 Update

Guidebook to Texas Taxes

- 2022 Edition

Litigating Employment Discrimination Cases

- 2021 Edition

Pronske's Texas Bankruptcy

- 2021 Edition

Texas Criminal Jury Charges

- 2022 Edition



Librarian Musings: Using “the new” Texas Law Help

TEXAS
LAW
HELP
.ORG

By Andrew Bennett

Texas Law Help has undergone many changes over the last year or so. The most apparent is the layout of their website. Some who were used to the old website may need a quick tutorial on how to navigate it. Let's go the website, “www.texaslawhelp.org.”

The main page has a very google like search bar. From here, you can search by keyword, topic, or the name of a form. You will get list of results including toolkits, forms, articles, and FAQ sheets. I searched for “divorce and kids.” Looking for everything in one place, click on any of the ones that start with “I need a...” and then ending with divorce, name change, or whatever you are looking for. When doing a divorce, make sure the one you click on, if you are looking for kids as I was, make sure it says “I want a divorce. We have children under 18.” It should be the first option but double check to make sure. This way you will end up on the full resource page where you can get all that you need for that particular topic.

Once you find a topic page, there is normally three tabs. “Overview” where you will find general information about the guide including a “commonly asked questions” drop down to find additional information. Second tab is “Information and Forms” where you will find general guides on a agreed or default divorce with children. If it were just a “Suit Against the Parent Child Relationship” or “Modification,” you'd find both the agreed and default sets as well. Name Change and other topics will have different sets. Make sure to read each description to make sure you select the proper set. After finding the packet you need, you can either print or download the entire packet or you can select individual forms (scroll to the bottom). In between, there is a checklist for you to follow should you pursue this action. The final tab is “Articles,” where you can find more general information about specific topics or subtopics dealing with divorce and kids.

Other ways to search the website include, from the main page, going to “Topics” and selecting a subject. Selecting “Self-Help,” and looking through the guides, guided forms, and articles. That tab also has the “Legal Chat” option to chat with a staff attorney as long as you qualify for their service. The “Legal Assistance” tab has a list of legal clinics and legal aid organizations. This tab also has the “professional use only (forms)” link where you can search for forms using the forms directory. I would recommend this for attorneys and librarians. It links you directly to the form to

download in PDF for patrons or clients. The search can also be sorted by title, topic, form number, and date revised.

Search results

About 484 results (0.17 seconds)

[I need a divorce. We have children under 18. | Texas Law Help](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | guide | [i-need-a-divorce-we-have-children-under-18](#)

Dec 1, 2021 ... Your divorce can be finished by agreement if you and your spouse agree about all the issues (including custody, visitation and child support) ...

[Family, Divorce & Children | Texas Law Help](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | family-divorce-children

How to get a divorce when there is already a final court order for custody and support of your children (like an Attorney General child support ord. ... Explore ...

[I need a divorce. We do not have minor children. | Texas Law Help](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | guide | [i-need-a-divorce-we-do-not-have-minor-children](#)

Nov 11, 2021 ... The Texas Supreme Court also has forms that can be used for an uncontested divorce without children and without real property (house or ...

[Divorce | Texas Law Help](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | family-divorce-children | divorce

Divorce is how you legally end a marriage. In a divorce, the court formalizes who has custody of children, pays support, controls property, and is ...

[FAQs: Filing a Divorce with Children | Texas Law Help](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | article | [faq-filing-a-divorce-with-children](#)

Jul 22, 2021 ... Can my spouse also file for divorce? What if I'm pregnant or my spouse is pregnant? What if the wife had a child with another man while married ...

[Original Petition for Divorce \[Divorce Set B\]](#)

[texaslawhelp.org](#) | sites | default | files | [fm-dib-100_div_w_kids_petitio...](#)

File Format: PDF Adobe Acrobat

My spouse had sexual intercourse in Texas, and the children may have been conceived by that act of intercourse. Our child was born in Texas and my spouse ...

[I need a divorce. We have minor children. A final custody and ...](#)

Forms Directory

Search by Form ID/Number

Topics

- Please select -

Format

- Any -

Sort by

Form title

Order

ASC

Search

FM-DIVB-600

Affidavit for Prove-Up of

Agreed Divorce With

Children

Submit this sworn affidavit to finalize an

agreed divorce with children. Use only if

consistent with your facts.



[Download Form](#)

FM-UCCJA-101-AFFIDAVIT FOR

REGISTRATION

Affidavit for Registration of

Foreign Custody Order

File this affidavit with your letter asking to

register another state's custody order in

Texas.



[Download Form](#)

PR-BMT-100 MOTION FOR USE OF

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES (NON-FAMILY

LAW)

Motion for Use of

Emergency Procedures

(Non-Family Law)

Use form to request permission to

participate in hearing by

telephone/videoconference. Not for use in

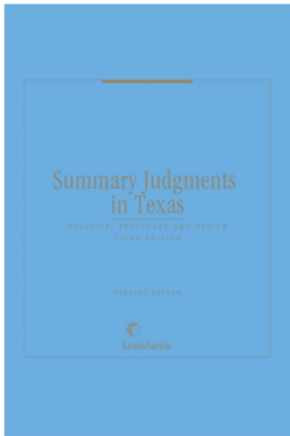
family law cases.

[Download Form](#)



Featured Resource: Summary Judgments in Texas: Practice, Procedure, and Review

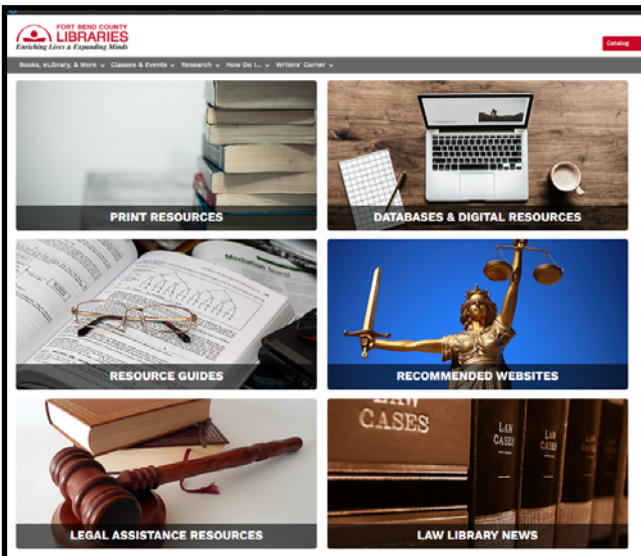
By Jonathan Briggs



At the Fort Bend County Law Library we strive to always maintain a collection of materials both in print and online that covers the depth and breadth of legal topics and resources in Texas and the United States. LexisNexis is one of our primary providers of these materials in both mediums and we have just made one of their publications a new edition to our collection. This month we received the 3rd edition of *Summary Judgments in Texas: Practice, Procedure and Review* by Timothy Patton. It is our first publication solely dedicated to the issue of summary judgment practice in civil cases in Texas. Summary judgment is where pre-trial dismissal of a civil case is sought in whole or in part pursuant to Rule 166a of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. “The movant for summary judgment has the burden of showing that there is no genuine issue of material fact and that it is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. *Nixon v. Mr. Property Management Co.*, 690 S.W.2d 546, 548 (Tex. 1985). Across 10 chapters and hundreds of pages, this practice guide provides in-depth coverage of topics such as: Deadlines; Traditional Motions for Summary Judgment and Response thereto; No-Evidence Motion for Summary Judgment and Response thereto; Summary Judgment Evidence; Disposition of Motion for Summary Judgment (including the hearing); Appellate Review of Summary Judgment; and an entire chapter devoted to Forms with dozens of form templates and examples. *Summary Judgments in Texas* is available in print here in the Law Library and online 24/7 via Lexis Digital Library (which is accessible with a Fort Bend County Library System library card and pin number). Whether you are seeking pretrial dismissal of your case or are fighting to keep your case on the docket, let the Law Library be your resource for this area of the law! We are on the 2nd floor of the Justice Center or contact us via phone at 281-341-3718 or by e-mail at: llpublic@fortbend.lib.tx.us.

Technology Corner: Law Library Page

By Andrew Bennett



Have you checked out our Law Library page lately on the Library website? There is a ton of resources on there that you may or may not know about. This includes useful websites and links, resource guides, the pro se handbook, links to our recordings of our past programs such as Attorney Lecture Series or Pro Se Basics, past newsletters, and our databases you have access to from home. The best way to get to it is to go to our website which is www.fortbend.lib.tx.us and then either go to “Research” and “Law Library” or click under “Locations/Hours” and find “Fort Bend County Law Library.” Either way takes you to our page. From here, you can click on the box you are looking for or scroll down to find out videos and other useful information. Remember, everything on here is free to access. The only resources that require a login are the databases. Gale Legal Forms Library and Legal Information Reference Center only require the barcode on the back of your Fort Bend County library card. Lexis Digital Library also requires your PIN in addition to the barcode. If you do not have a Fort Bend County Library Card, please go sign up for one.

It is FREE as well. Clicking on any of our videos takes you to YouTube where you can watch all of our past programs. For more information, visit the library or call us at 281-341-3718.



Texas Case Law Update

Local Cases

- [In Re Highland Homes-Houston, LLC](#), No. 01-21-00585-CV (February 10, 2022): Pet. Writ Mand. Granted. (400th)
- [Dmintry Nikolenko v. Luiza Nikolenko](#), No. 01-2000284-CV (February 17, 2022): TC Judgment Aff'd. Modified. (328th)
- [Kennard Law, PC v. Linda Patton](#), No. 01-20-00560-CV (February 17, 2022): Appeal Dism'd. (400th)
- [In Re AT&T Services, Inc., et al.](#), No. 01-21-00688-CV (March 3, 2022): Pet. Writ Mand. Dism'd. (458th)
- [Robert Foran v. Cameron Roesle, et al.](#), No. 01-21-00556-CV (March 15, 2022): Appeal Dism'd. (400th)
- [In Re Shannon Coleman](#), No. 01-22-00055-CV (March 24, 2022): Pet. Writ Mand. Dism'd. (CCL#3)
- [Olubunmi Ajanaka, et al., v. Mardan Dadashev](#), No. 14-21-00478-CV (February 15, 2022): Appeal Dism'd. (CCL#1)
- [Fort Bend County, Texas v. James A. Williams, et al.](#), No. 14-19-00998-CV (February 17, 2022): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (CCL#1)
- [Johnnie C. Walker v. TSY Property Management LLC](#), No. 14-21-00660-CV (March 17, 2022): Appeal Dism'd. (CCL#2)
- [Siamak Tavakoli v. Fort Bend County MUD 50](#), No. 14-22-00083-CV (March 24, 2022): Appeal Dism'd. (CCL#6)
- [Dimension Homes, Inc., et al., v. Douglas D. Lewis, et al.](#), No. 14-20-00316-CV (March 29, 2022): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (400th)
- [L.B. v. Texas Department of Family and Protective Services](#), No. 14-21-00552-CV (March 29, 2022): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (328th)

Criminal Law—Double Jeopardy—Sexual Offenses

Enrique Angel Ramos v. The State of Texas, 636 S.W.3d 646 (Tex.Crim.App. 2021, reh'g denied). Defendant/Appellant was convicted of both continuous sexual abuse of a child and prohibited sexual conduct, receiving sentences of 40 and 5 years respectively, to be served consecutively. The offenses involved the same victim, his stepdaughter. The second offense occurred during the same time-frame of the period that was the basis for the continuous sexual abuse conviction. Defendant appealed to the Corpus Christi Court of Appeals asserting that punishment for both offenses violated Double Jeopardy under the 5th Amendment. The court of appeals agreed and vacated the conviction for prohibited sexual conduct. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals in an in-depth opinion found that continuous sexual abuse of a child and prohibited sexual conduct “are not the same offense for purposes of a multiple-punishments double-jeopardy issue.” They reversed the court of appeals’ judgment to the extent it vacated the conviction for prohibited sexual conduct and remanded the case for the court to consider another outstanding point of error related to that offense. For practitioners defending these types of cases, this opinion is definitely worth a read.

Family Law—Post-Decree SAPCR—Jurisdiction

Hector Cortez v. Veronica Garza Cortez, 639 S.W.3d 298 (Tex.App.-Houston [1st Dist.] 2021, no pet. h.). This case involves jurisdictional and cross-border (Texas and Mexico) issues. Father brought a motion to enforce the divorce decree regarding the children’s residence along with a motion to modify the parent-child relationship seeking to grant him the power to designate the primary residence of he children. On January 22, 2013 the divorce decree was issued by a Texas court with joint managing conservatorship, mother granted right to designate primary residence (she moved to Mexico), and a provision called for the return of the children to Texas for purposes of primary residence by August 1, 2014. The decree also identified Texas as the “home state” of the children. In his petition to modify the father identified the decree-granting court as the court with continuing, exclusive jurisdiction and Texas as the children’s primary residence. Despite this, mother filed a plea to the jurisdiction under the UCCJEA requesting the court decline jurisdiction asserting that neither the children or her have any significant connection to Texas. She further filed an action in Mexico seeking to terminate his parental rights. Trial court in Texas granted her plea to the jurisdiction as regarded most issues though retaining jurisdiction over some matters. In an extensive opinion worth reading by any family law practitioner here in Texas the First Court of Appeals concluded that the trial court erred in determining it no longer had exclusive, continuing jurisdiction. In doing so, the court cited to case law that looked unfavorably on a parent that sought to use behavior in violation of the Texas court’s order as the basis for a change in the court of continuing exclusive jurisdiction.



Community News

- The **Fort Bend County Law Library** still has three remote databases including *Gale Legal Forms Library*, *Legal Information Reference Center*, and *Lexis Digital Library*. You will need a library card to access. Visit our website at www.fortbend.lib.tx.us.
- The **Texas State Law Library** has a lot of **digital resources** at your disposal. Please **create a digital library account** for access. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.sll.texas.gov/about-us/get-a-library-account/>.
- **Re:search TX** allows you to research case law from all 254 Texas counties. Some documents do require payment to access. Account set up is free. Go to <https://research.txcourts.gov/CourtRecordsSearch/Home>. Or you can check out Google Scholar for case law research at <http://scholar.google.com>.
- **Harris County Law Library** is OPEN to the general public. They are continuing their virtual programs and virtual reference desk by phone and email. To schedule an appointment to visit, go to their website here: <https://www.harriscountylawlibrary.org/>



FBC Bar News

Fort Bend County Bar Association

The **Fort Bend Bar Association** has their monthly meeting and CLE on Thursday **March 31** at **noon**. Check their website for more information.

Family Bar of Fort Bend County

The **Family Bar of Fort Bend** will have their monthly luncheon and business meeting on Thursday **April 7** at Buena Vista in Richmond at **noon**. Program topic is IVF given by Ellen A. Yarrell. No reservations required and .75 MCLE credit will be given. Please buy your own lunch. Check their website for more details.

Fort Bend County Criminal Defense Attorneys Association

The **Fort Bend County Criminal Defense Attorneys Association** will have its Monthly Meeting and CLE on Thursday, **March 31** at **noon**. This month the topic will be about **Court Costs and Fines**. The Speaker is Ted Wood. For more information visit their website.





Useful Articles and Links

- ***LinkedIn Marketing: Five Tips to Help You Build Your Brand.*** Amanda Ravandi. *Texas Bar Journal*. March 2022. [State Bar of Texas | Articles \(texasbar.com\)](#)
- ***Point of View: A Women's History Month Roundtable Discussion with Women Dean's at Texas Law Schools.*** Britney E. Harrison, moderator. *Texas Bar Journal*. March 2022. [State Bar of Texas | Articles \(texasbar.com\)](#)
- ***Women in Municipal Law: Representing the Texas Municipal League, the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, and Beyond.*** Scott Houston. *Texas Bar Journal*. March 2022. [State Bar of Texas | Articles \(texasbar.com\)](#)
- ***Do's and Don'ts of Being Second Chair.*** Michelle Ochoa. *Voice for the Defense*. March 2022. [Current Issue: March 2022 | Voice for the Defense Online](#)
- ***Tips for Public Defenders and Indigent Defense.*** Mark A. Melchor, J Ryan Crisler, and Rachel Crisler. *Voice for the Defense*. March 2022. [Current Issue: March 2022 | Voice for the Defense Online](#)
- ***Why Diversity Matters .*** Thuy Le. March 2022. [Current Issue: March 2022 | Voice for the Defense Online](#)
- ***Be the Change You Want To Be.*** Compiled by Nikki Morris and Andrew Pierce. *The Houston Lawyer*. January/February 2022. [The Houston Lawyer home](#)
- ***Digging Deeper: Uncovering and Combating the Root Causes of the Lack of Advancement of Women and Diverse Attorneys in Law Firms.*** Karen M. Richardson. *The Houston Lawyer*. January/February 2022. [The Houston Lawyer home](#)

Texas Lawyers Assistance Program

The State Bar of Texas offers confidential assistance to attorneys, judges, and law students who are facing substance abuse and mental health issues through its [Lawyers Assistance Program](#). Professional staff members are available 24/7 by phone to help with crisis counseling and referrals to local professionals and support groups. For assistance, call 1-800-343-8527.

Contact

If you have any information on upcoming CLEs, conferences, etc. that you think would be useful to include in the newsletter, please send an email to llpublic@fortbend.lib.tx.us with "Newsletter" as the subject.

To unsubscribe, write "unsubscribe."