

THE BRIEF



Information for Texas Municipalities about Texas Municipal Courts (June 2021)

A ONE-OF-A-KIND VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

TMCEC Magistrate Duties Exposition and Showcase (July 7-8, 2021)

Part of the C3 Initiative

Part retrospective, part preview, the *TMCEC Magistrate Duties Exposition and Showcase*, July 7-8, 2021, will feature a unique blend of new presentations and topics with some of TMCEC's highest rated presenters from throughout the State of Texas. An examination of both big ideas and best practices, this 12-hour virtual event will take a comprehensive dive into the realm of magistrate duties. Utilizing cutting edge technology, TMCEC will bring this live, synchronous event to you virtually. It is a re-tooled and modernized version of the TMCEC *Special Topic School: Magistrate Duties* last held in 2005.

Municipal judges and justices of the peace perform more magistrate duties than all other members of the judiciary combined. In the capacity of a magistrate, municipal judges serve an important gate-keeping function in the adjudication of all criminal matters (misdemeanors and felonies). Decisions made by magistrates can have important implications for the outcome of criminal offenses and protecting the public. Sessions at this year's *Magistrate Duties Exposition and Showcase* will explore many issues including Setting Bail, Warrants, the 4th Amendment, Magistrate's Orders for Emergency Protection, Appointment of Counsel, Legal Issues Pertaining to Foreign Nationals, Juvenile Statements, Property Hearings, and Mental Health Orders.

The *Magistrate Duties Exposition and Showcase* is a special TMCEC event. It is part of the C3 Initiative. C3 (Councils, Courts, and Cities) is a public information and education campaign created by the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center to help fill the information gap between city halls and municipal courts in Texas. (Check out the [brochure](#) and [webpage](#) for this event.)

The public increasingly depends on city officials and employees to understand key issues pertaining to the law. The *Magistrate Duties Exposition and Showcase* is a rare opportunity for mayors, city council members, and other municipal officials and employees to sit side-by-side with judges, court support staff, and other members of the courtroom workgroup and gain insight, awareness, and understanding of important issues in Texas municipal courts.

Space for this event is limited. Judges seeking to complete their mandatory judicial education hours will be given priority in enrollment. Participants may also attend to earn clerk certification hours or obtain CLE. Because this event is funded with public money, all participants are expected to attend the event in its entirety. The registration fee for eligible TMCEC constituents (i.e., judges, clerks, court administrators, and city attorneys) is \$50 (\$150 with CLE reporting). The registration fee for C3 guests (i.e., mayors, city council members, city officials, and municipal employees who register to attend with an eligible TMCEC constituent) is \$50. (C3 guests are not eligible for online registration but may register by calling 800-252-3718.) TMCEC constituents eligible for this event may register [online](#).

The Brief is a periodic briefing for Texas mayors, city council members, and other local officials highlighting issues and increasing awareness and understanding of municipal courts in the Lone Star State. *The Brief* is part of TMCEC's public information and education campaign, *Councils, Courts, and Cities* (C3). For more information about TMCEC, visit: www.tmcec.com. Follow C3 on Twitter: @C3ofTexas. **Texas Municipal Courts Education Center is funded by a grant from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.**