

JUVENILE CASE MANAGERS IN TEXAS: THE FIRST DECADE

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In Texas, more municipal and justice courts come into contact with children accused of violating the law than do juvenile courts and juvenile probation services combined.¹

Juvenile case managers are employed as a local strategic measure to prevent children from becoming further involved in the justice system and to curb juvenile crime.

University of Texas Law School Professor Robert O. Dawson had the foresight in 2001 to know that changes in public policy would result in more children being adjudicated in local trial courts, and that shifting the burden onto such courts would require special resources for cases involving children.² In drafting the initial pieces of legislation, Professor Dawson used Corpus Christi's case manager program as a model and hoped that similar efforts could be replicated throughout Texas. The City of Corpus Christi successfully reduced recidivism and delinquent conduct.³ Using case managers in cases involving gateway status offenses (e.g., failure to attend school, nighttime curfew violations, underage drinking, and underage smoking) as part of its Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) and Truancy Reduction Impact Program (TRIP).

That was 10 years ago. Today, juvenile case managers provide services in cases involving juvenile offenders before a court consistent with the court's statutory powers.⁴ Juvenile case managers assist the court in administering the court's juvenile docket and in supervising its orders in juvenile cases.⁵ Juvenile case managers timely report any information or recommendations relevant to assisting the judge in making decisions that are in the best interest of the child.⁶

Within the parameters provided by state law, the work performed by juvenile case managers has been largely determined locally in light of specific needs and circumstances. Professor Dawson did not believe that the scope of juvenile case manager duties was exclusively determined by state law. Before his death in 2005, Professor Dawson believed that case managers could also perform intake duties on complaints filed, operate diversion programs, implement dispositional orders by providing supervision services, and initiate proceedings for enforcing those orders in the event of a violation.⁷ From a legal perspective, the statutory evolution of law governing

juvenile case managers has followed a circuitous and, at times, confusing path. Such confusion has likely inhibited the expansion of juvenile case manager programs. This article is written for the benefit of governmental entities operating a juvenile case manager program and, alternatively, governmental entities taking a first or second look at the possibility of creating a juvenile case manager program who seek better insight into relevant statutes.

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AROUND THE STATE

Monthly Reports

As you are all aware, new reporting rules for the Judicial Council Monthly Municipal Court Activity Report went into effect on September 1, 2011. As courts have worked to interpret the new reporting rules and implement changes to capture new information, they have contacted the Office of Court Administration (OCA) with questions and requests for clarification about aspects of the report. As a result of these interactions, OCA recently released an updated version of the reporting instructions and the Frequently Asked Questions document to provide additional guidance to the courts. The updated documents may be obtained from OCA's Required Reporting webpage at: <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/oca/required.asp>.

While the reports are typically due the 20th of each month, OCA is giving courts time to transition to the new reports. Late notices will likely not be sent out until late spring.

If you have any questions about the monthly reports, feel free to contact the OCA Judicial Information staff at reportingsection@courts.state.tx.us or 512.463.1625.

Check the TMCEC OLC for archived webinars on the new monthly report: <http://online.tmcec.com/>.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Annual Meetings

TMA: March 25 - 29, 2012; West Columbia Lakes

JCMA: May 17, 2012; Austin

TMCA: July 26 - 28, 2012; Fredericksburg

TCCA: October 14 - 17, 2012; Galveston

NGCA: October 15 - 17, 2012; Las Vegas, Nevada

TTCA: November 6 - 9, 2012; New Braunfels

(If needed, email tmcec@tmcec.com for meaning of acronyms)



ETHICS UPDATE

EXAMPLES OF IMPROPER JUDICIAL CONDUCT

The following are examples of judicial misconduct that resulted in disciplinary action by the Commission in fiscal year 2011. These are illustrative examples of misconduct and do not represent every disciplinary action taken by the Commission in fiscal year 2011. The summaries below are listed in relation to specific violations of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, the Texas Constitution, and other statutes or rules. They are also listed in descending order of the severity of the disciplinary action imposed, and may involve more than one violation. The full text of any public sanction is published on the Commission website. A copy of any public disciplinary record may also be requested by contacting the Commission.

These sanction summaries are provided with the intent to educate and inform the judiciary and the public regarding misconduct that the Commission found to warrant disciplinary action in fiscal year 2011. The reader should note that the summaries provide only general information and may omit mitigating or aggravating facts that the Commission considered when determining the level of sanction to be imposed. Additionally, the reader should not make any inference from the fact situations provided in these summaries.

It is important to remember that the purpose of judicial discipline is not to punish the judge for engaging in misconduct but to protect the public by alerting them that conduct that violates the public trust will not be condoned. However, the reader should note that not every transgression reported to the Commission will, or should, result in disciplinary action. The Commission has broad discretion to determine whether disciplinary action is appropriate, and the degree of discipline to be imposed. Factors such as the seriousness of the transgression, whether there is a pattern of improper activity, and the effect of the improper activity on others or on the judicial system, will inform and impact the Commission's decision in each case. It is the Commission's sincere desire that providing this information will protect and preserve the public's confidence in the competence, integrity, impartiality and independence of the judiciary and further assist the judiciary in establishing, maintaining and enforcing the highest standards of conduct – both on the bench and in their personal lives.

CANON 2A: A judge shall comply with the law and should act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.

- The judge failed to comply with the law and failed to act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity of the judiciary by entering a “guilty” or “no contest” plea to an offense that constituted a violation of Section 12.44(b) of the Texas Penal Code. The incident that gave rise to the criminal case was captured on video and received widespread media attention, casting public discredit on the judiciary and the administration of justice. [Violation of Canon 2A of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct and Article V, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.] *Public Warning of a Senior Judge*. (10/14/10).
- The judge failed to comply with the law and demonstrated a lack of professional competence in the law by: (1) denying Complainant his due process rights to a hearing regarding a permit violation charge when she failed and/or refused to provide Complainant

with the opportunity to enter a “not guilty” plea to the charge and/or have a trial in the matter; (2) adjudicating Complainant's guilt and assessing a fine in his absence without notice and without setting a court date; and (3) threatening Complainant with arrest if he did not pay the fine when he appeared in court. The judge also acted improperly when she shredded documents in violation of the minimum records retention schedule established by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. [Violation of Canons 2A, 3B(2) and 3B(8) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Reprimand and Order of Additional Education of a Justice of the Peace*. (12/10/10).

- The judge exceeded the scope of his authority and failed to comply with the law by jailing an individual, without notice and a hearing, for contempt following a confrontation between the judge and the individual after court proceedings had adjourned. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Reprimand of a District Judge*. (01/26/11).

- The judge failed to comply with the law and failed to maintain professional competence in the law by permitting defendants to make charitable donations in lieu of performing community service when he knew, or should have known, the law does not permit such a substitution for class C misdemeanors. When asked by a defendant wishing to make a charitable donation in lieu of performing community service to which organization to give, the judge lent the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of those specific charitable entities he identified. The judge also failed to comply with the law and failed to maintain professional competence in the law when he followed a procedure that had the practical effect of placing a commercial driver's license holder on deferred disposition, when he knew that the law prohibited him from doing so. Finally, the judge failed to treat a member of his court staff in a patient, dignified and courteous manner by making jokes in court that he knew, or should have known, would cause the staff member public embarrassment and humiliation. [Violation of Canons 2A, 2B, 3B(2), and 3B(4) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Reprimand of a Former Municipal Court Judge.* (08/31/11).
- The judge failed to comply with the law and demonstrated a lack of professional competence in the law when he signed an "Order of Reversal" reinstating a traffic case without input or participation from the State. [Violation of Canon 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Warning and Order of Additional Education of a Municipal Court Judge.* (11/23/10).
- The judge failed to follow the law and maintain professional competence in the law by (1) failing to provide a party with notice of a hearing, and (2) issuing orders in a case over which she had lost plenary power. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition and Order of Additional Education of a Justice of the Peace.* (01/19/11).
- The judge failed to follow the proper procedures set forth in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure prior to incarcerating an individual for his inability to pay his fines. The judge's conduct demonstrated a failure to comply with established law, and a lack of professional competence in the law. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition of a Municipal Court Judge.* (09/24/10).
- The judge failed to comply with the law and failed to maintain professional competence in the law when she allowed her court staff and city prosecutors to "take" pleas from juvenile defendants in her absence. The judge failed to comply with the plain language of the statute, which requires that juvenile pleas be taken and accepted contemporaneously in a courtroom setting in the presence of both the judge and the juvenile's parent or guardian. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition of a Former Municipal Court Judge.* (04/04/11).
- The judge failed to comply with the law and failed to maintain professional competence in the law when he: (1) ordered various individuals in his court into "timeout", and ordered his bailiff to handcuff two individuals when they tried to leave during the "timeout" period; (2) attempted to mediate a dispute between two roommates in a matter that was not pending in his court; (3) allowed tenants in eviction cases to "cure" defaults in their rental obligations, in contravention of the parties' rental agreements; and (4) held a show cause hearing in which he summoned a landlord's attorneys back to court after losing jurisdiction in an eviction case, threatened to sanction the attorneys for allegedly acting in bad faith, and thereafter issued a public memorandum chastising one of the attorneys for his conduct in the case. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition of a former Justice of the Peace.* (05/09/11).
- The judge failed to follow the law and demonstrated a lack of professional competence in the law by: (a) failing to issue an adequate show cause order specifying the underlying contemptuous act of which Complainant was accused; (b) failing to ensure that Complainant was personally served with a copy of the order to show cause; (c) treating Complainant's contempt proceeding in a matter suggesting that Complainant had been accused of a criminal offense; (d) entering an order adjudging Complainant in contempt of court and setting a fine in his case prior to the hearing; (e) setting Complainant's fine in an amount in excess of the \$100.00 limit provided in Section 21.002(c) of the Texas Government Code. The judge further engaged in an improper ex parte communication with the prosecutor; dismissed the Complainant's case without first receiving a written motion from prosecutor; and failed to enter a final written order or judgment in Complainant's case. [Violation of Canons 2A, 3B(2), and 6C(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Order of Additional Education of a Municipal Court Judge.* (02/15/11).

CANON 2B: A judge shall not allow any relationship to influence judicial conduct or judgment. A judge shall not lend the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge or others; nor shall a judge convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the judge.

- The judge wrote a letter of support on behalf of a criminal defendant, and thereby lent the prestige of his judicial office to advance the private interests of that defendant and his family. [Violation of Canon 2B of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Public Reprimand of a Justice of the Peace.* (03/31/11).

CANON 3B(1): A judge shall hear and decide matters assigned to the judge except those in which disqualification is required or recusal is appropriate.

- The judge presided over a criminal matter wherein he was the injured party. The judge was disqualified from presiding over the matter and should have arranged to have another judge handle the plea. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(1) of the

CANON 3B(2): A judge should be faithful to the law and shall maintain professional competence in it. A judge shall not be swayed by partisan interests, public clamor, or fear of criticism.

- The judge issued a summons for a citizen to appear in his court when no case was pending against the citizen and no criminal charges had been filed against him. The citizen was threatened with arrest if he did not appear in court, and was forced to retain the services of an attorney in order to resolve the matter. [Violations of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Public Warning of a Justice of the Peace.* (04/06/11).
- The judge exceeded the scope of his judicial authority and misused his position as judge when he approached a driver who he believed had been speeding, identified himself as a judge, ordered her to produce her driver's license to him, and directed her to appear in his chambers in order to obtain the return of her license. With no case pending in his court, the judge forced the driver to appear before him in order to lecture her about his own personal feelings about her driving. The judge also exceeded the scope of his judicial authority when he (1) directed his court staff to accept payments from defendants on behalf of plaintiffs to discharge judgments and/or to comply with the terms of settlement agreements in cases that either were, or had been, pending in his court, and (2) directed his court staff to accept rental payments from tenants on behalf of landlords in eviction cases that either were, or had been, pending in his court. [Violation of Canons 2A, 2B, and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Public Admonition of a Former Justice of the Peace.*(05/09/11).
- Six (6) judges failed to obtain the mandatory judicial education hours during the 2010 academic year. [Violation of Canons 2A and 3B(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition and Order of Additional Education of Five Justices of the Peace and a Municipal Court Judge.* (03/29/11 – 04/07/11).

CANON 3B(4): A judge shall be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity, and should require similar conduct of lawyers, and of staff, court officials and others subject to the judge's direction and control.

- The judge willfully and/or persistently violated the law when he: (1) engaged in conduct that favored a relative of a member of the city council; (2) engaged in an undignified, impatient, and discourteous conversation with the mother of a juvenile defendant; and (3) engaged in undignified, impatient, and discourteous treatment of the juvenile including having the juvenile arrested and handcuffed. [Violation of Canons 2B and 3B(4) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Warning and Order of Additional Education of a Municipal Court Judge.* (07/11/11).

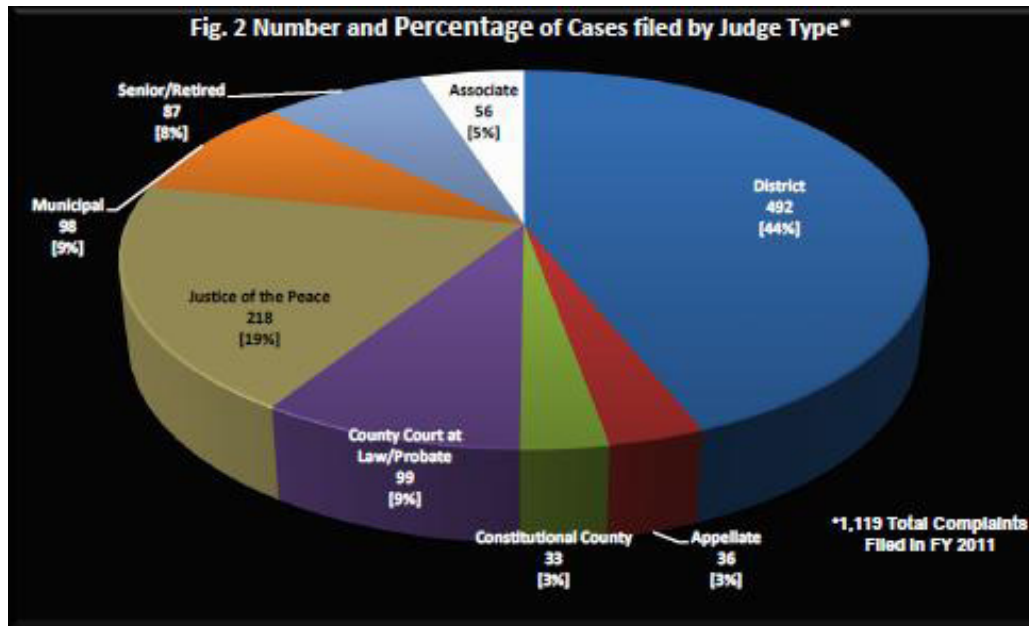
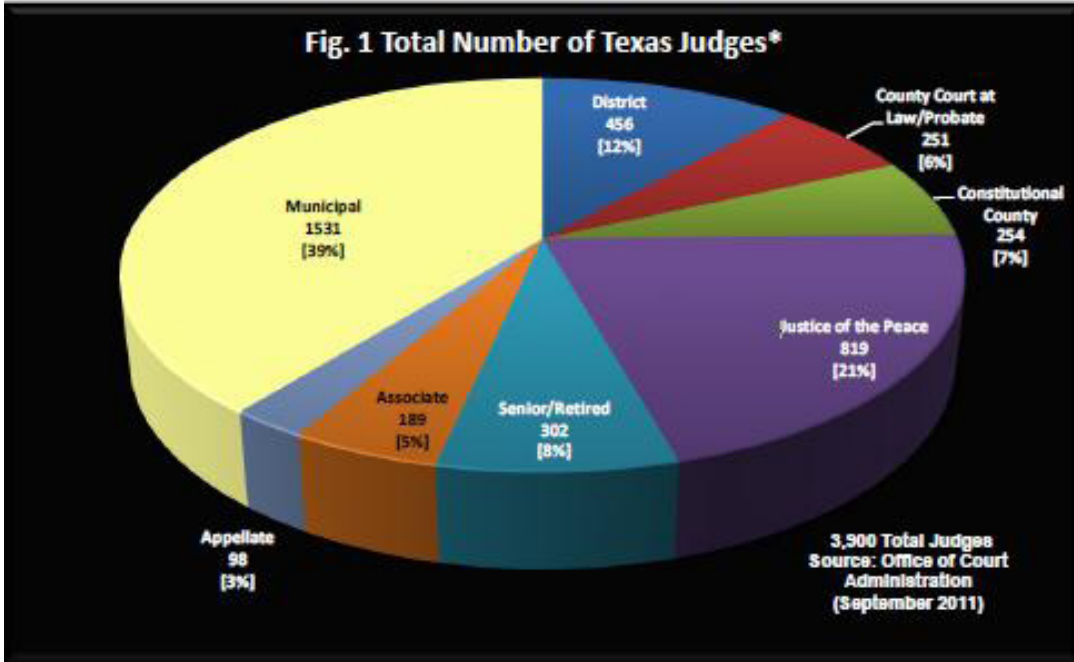
CANON 3B(5): A judge shall perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice.

- During the magistration of a defendant for the alleged theft of a student's Aggie ring, the judge (a) displayed his own Aggie ring, (b) advised the defendant that he should consider attending another school outside of College Station, and then (c) relied on information not contained or charged in the probable cause affidavit to enhance the standard bond for a state jail felony to \$50,000. [Violation of Canons 3B(4) and 3B(5) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, Article V, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.] *Public Reprimand and Order of Additional Education of a Justice of the Peace.* (07/11/11).

CANON 3B(8): A judge shall accord to every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding, or that person's lawyer, the right to be heard according to law. A judge shall not initiate, permit, or consider ex parte communications or other communications made to the judge outside the presence of the parties between the judge and a party, an attorney, a guardian or attorney ad litem, an alternative dispute resolution neutral, or any other court appointee concerning the merits of a pending or impending judicial proceeding. A judge shall require compliance with this subsection by court personnel subject to the judge's direction and control.

- The judge went beyond the scope of his judicial role as a neutral arbiter and deprived the parties of an opportunity to respond to his findings when he undertook an independent investigation as to whether the witnesses had committed perjury. At the time of this investigation the judge had not issued a final judgment in the still-pending case. The judge knew or should have known his actions could have caused a reasonable person to question whether or not he would be impartial or could have resulted in his becoming a fact witness in posttrial proceedings. [Violation of Canon 3B(8) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Warning and Order of Additional Education of a County Court at Law Judge.* (12/08/10).
- The judge failed to comply with the law, engaged in an improper ex parte communication with a litigant, and denied a party the right to be heard according to law when he: (1) communicated and plea bargained with a defendant outside the presence of the State; (2) dismissed several of the defendant's cases without input or consent from the State; and (3) erroneously noted on the file jackets of the dismissed cases that the State and its witness were not ready for trial. [Violation of Canons 2A, 3B(8), and 6C(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition and Order of Additional Education of a Municipal Court Judge.* (07/12/11).

CANON 4C(2): A judge shall not solicit funds for any educational, religious, charitable, fraternal or civic organization, but may be listed as an officer, director, delegate, or trustee of such an organization, and



may be a speaker or a guest of honor at an organization's fundraising events.

- The judge willfully and/or persistently violated the law when he allowed defendants to make donations to private non-profit organizations in exchange for a credit on their assessed fines. The judge's practice of maintaining and providing a list of approved organizations to which the defendants were allowed to make donations, which list included a scholarship program started by the judge, combined with the "Thank You" letters sent to the judge by the organizations who received the donations, created the impression that (1) he was personally soliciting donations on behalf of those organizations, (2) he was lending the prestige of his judicial office to advance the organizations' private interests, and (3) the organizations were in a special position to influence him. [Violation of Canons 2B and 4C(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Reprimand of a Justice of the Peace.* (07/11/11).

CANON 4E(1): A judge shall not serve as executor, administrator, or other personal representative, trustee guardian, attorney in fact or other fiduciary, except for the estate, trust or person of a member of the judge's family, and then only if such service will not interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties.

- The judge continued to serve as trustee of a trust for a long time friend, and as a fiduciary or personal representative of that friend, after becoming County Judge and refused to voluntarily remove himself as trustee even after legal action was taken against him. [Violation of Canon 4E(1) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Public Admonition of a County Judge.* (12/16/10).

CANON 4(G): A judge shall not practice law except as permitted by statute or this Code. Notwithstanding this prohibition, a judge may act pro se and may, without compensation, give legal advice to and draft or review documents for a member of the judge's family.

- The judge improperly acted as an advocate and legal counsel for a family member in a small claims action by (a) initiating contact with opposing counsel in an effort to negotiate a settlement on behalf of the family member; and (b) appearing at trial, passing notes to the family member that included legal advice and trial strategy, and requesting that he be permitted to sit at counsel table with the family member. [Violation of Canon 4G of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.] *Private Admonition of a District Judge.* (10/14/10).

Texas Constitution, Article V, Section 1-a(6)A. Any Justice or Judge of the courts established by this Constitution or created by the Legislature as provided in Section 1, Article V, of this Constitution, may, subject to the other provisions hereof, be removed from office for willful or persistent violation of rules promulgated by the Supreme Court of Texas, incompetence in performing the duties of the office, willful violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, or willful

or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties or casts public discredit upon the judiciary or administration of justice. Any person holding such office may be disciplined or censured, in lieu of removal from office, as provided by this section.

- The judge forwarded letters of introduction to specific members of the community, which cast doubt on the judge's ability to act impartially in certain types of cases those members filed in his court and conveyed the impression that they would be in a special position to influence the judge when deciding cases. The judge further delayed providing pertinent information in response to the Commission's inquiries, which hindered the Commission's ability to make a timely and informed decision about the matter. [Violation of Canons 2B, 4A(1) and Article V, Section 1-a(6) of the Texas Constitution.] *Private Warning of a Justice of the Peace.* (01/31/11).

Excerpt from *FY2011 Annual Report of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct*, Austin. www.scjc.state.tx.us/pdf/rpts/AR-FY11.pdf

Reminders:

For Attorneys

The State Bar of Texas has changed its MCLE Rules, effective June 1, 2011. Now a minimum of 12 of the 15 hours of annual CLE must be completed through attendance at "Accredited CLE" activities. Accredited CLE activities include accredited teleconferences, webcasts, satellite, on-demand/online CLE (streaming audio/video presentations), and accredited downloadable CLE activities that have been recorded from live seminars. The remaining three hours of CLE may be completed through self-study.

Many archived TMCEC webinars (we are calling them Webinars on Demand) are accredited CLE activities. Go to the TMCEC Online Learning Center (OLC) to logon: <http://online.tmcec.com/>. A MCLE number is included so that you can self-report the hours. The MCLE rules require a different MCLE number for the "participatory or live" versus the archived webinars. Both are included on the OLC. There is no charge for registering for or claiming CLE credit for TMCEC webinars. Users will need a username and password -- email tmcec@tmcec.com if you have misplaced yours.

Certification Renewal

All clerks and court administrators who are certified at Level I and II are reminded to submit to TMCEC a renewal application with the certificates showing at least 12 hours of continuing education in 11-12. Those certified at Level III must submit documentation of 20 hours of education each academic year. The renewal application may be downloaded from the website at: www.tmcec.com/Programs/Clerks/Annual_Renewals.



I. The 77th Legislature (2001)

A. “Juvenile Case Manager” or “Truancy Case Manager”

S.B. 1432 added Article 45.046 to the Code of Criminal Procedure, authorizing a justice court, municipal court, school district, juvenile probation department, or other appropriate governmental entity to employ and seek reimbursement for truancy case managers from the Governor’s Office. It is unknown how many, if any, local governments sought or received reimbursement. To be eligible for reimbursement, the applicant had to present a comprehensive plan to reduce truancy that involved a case manager.

Notably, the Legislature also passed H.B. 1118 that added Article 45.054, Authority to Employ Case Managers for Juvenile Cases. This proved, subsequently, to be the source of some confusion as it was not clear if “truancy case managers” and “juvenile case managers” were distinct or one and the same position.

B. An Exception to Mandatory Transfer

Prior to H.B. 1118, a municipal or justice court had to waive its original jurisdiction and refer a child to juvenile court if the child had been convicted of two or more fine-only offenses other than traffic offenses or public intoxication. As amended, Section 51.08 of the Family Code allowed municipal and justice courts who had implemented a juvenile case manager program under Article 45.054 of the Code of Criminal Procedure to choose whether to retain original jurisdiction of such cases even if the child had previously been convicted twice. The change in law was intended to further reduce the

caseload in juvenile court and for probation services. It was welcomed by critics who claimed that juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers were inadequately handling such cases when transferred.

C. Partnerships

H.B. 1118 reflected the realization that the only way many municipalities and counties would likely be able to afford a juvenile case manager was by sharing the expense. Accordingly, Article 45.054 of the Code of Criminal Procedure authorized one or more justice or municipal courts, with the written consent of the city council or the commissioners court, as appropriate, to agree under Chapter 791 (Interlocal Cooperation Contracts) of the Government Code to jointly employ a case manager.

II. The 78th Legislature (2003)

Consolidating Statutes

H.B. 2319 aimed to resolve the conflict, created during the 77th Legislature, of having two articles numbered 45.054 in the Code of Criminal Procedure (one pertaining to the authority to employ juvenile case managers, the other pertaining to failure to attend school proceedings). It did so by repealing the version Article 45.054 pertaining to juvenile case managers, and amending Article 45.056 to authorize the employment of juvenile case managers to provide services in all cases involving children in justice and municipal court, not just school attendance-related violations. To reflect the change, “truancy case manager” was abandoned in favor of the broader “juvenile case manager.” While this amendment clarified the broad role of juvenile case manager work, such clarity would ultimately prove short-lived.

III. The 79th Legislature (2005)

A. Broader Partnerships

One of the advantages of consolidating the two types of case managers into one statute in 2003 was that it expanded the possibility of partnerships beyond just municipalities and counties. As revised, Article 45.056 allowed county commissioners, city councils, school district board of trustees, or other appropriate authorities to share the expense of a juvenile case manager program to be shared by interlocal agreement. H.B. 1575 embraced this expansion by adding county courts to the list of courts that can utilize juvenile case manager services. The stage was set, and it remains today, for juvenile case managers to work in county courts, justice courts, municipal courts, school districts, juvenile probation departments, and other appropriate entities. (Notably, what constitutes an “appropriate authority” or “appropriate entity” is undefined.)

B. Juvenile Case Manager Fee

H.B. 1575 added Article 102.0174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and authorized a city council or commissioners court to create a juvenile case manager fund and impose a specific-use fee not to exceed \$5 as a cost of court for the salaries and benefits of juvenile case managers employed by the local governmental entity under Article 45.056.

While juvenile case managers had “been on the books” for four years, funding for such positions proved difficult to procure. In terms of state court costs, the juvenile case manager fee was an exception to the norm: it was optional (local government were not required to collect it), the amount to be collected was determined and retained locally, and most notably, it is one of few true court costs that provides a direct benefit to local courts (rather than state government).

C. The Role of the Juvenile Case Manager

H.B. 1575 added Article 45.056(c) stating that a juvenile case manager is to assist the court in administering its juvenile docket and to monitor the behavior of children and their compliance with court orders. This complemented existing statutory language in Article 45.056(a)(1), which provided that case managers provide services in cases involving juvenile offenders before a court consistent with the court's statutory powers.

Unfortunately, however, other language in Article 45.056(c), in conjunction with Subsection (e) unintentionally clouded the 2003 effort to clarify the broadened role of the case manager. Subsection (e) stated that "a juvenile case manager employed under Subsection (c) (which pertained to the employment of full-time juvenile case managers) shall work primarily on cases" alleging Failure to Attend School (Section 25.093, Education Code) and Parent Contributing to Non-Attendance (Section 25.094, Education Code). Despite the clear language in Article 45.056(a)(1), some interpreted Article 45.056(e) to limit the scope of work performed by juvenile case managers. Thus, local government could not adopt the juvenile case manager fund unless their local court heard school attendance cases. Even if such interpretations were incorrect, some local governments were deterred from adopting the juvenile case manager fee and employing a juvenile case manager. Lingering doubts about the role and case priorities of juvenile case managers, stemming from the problematic language in Article 45.056(e), lingered until 2011.

IV. The 80th Legislature (2007) Questioning the Legality of the Juvenile Case Manager Fee

In the 80th Legislature, most legislation of interest to juvenile case managers pertained to changes in compulsory school attendance law. While no legislation directly pertaining to juvenile case managers was introduced during the 80th Legislature, 2007 was hardly an uneventful year in the legal history of juvenile case managers. On March 27th, Harris County Attorney Mike Stafford in RQ-0579 asked the Attorney General if the juvenile case manager fee, authorized by Article 102.0174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, was constitutional. Based on the premise that court costs are punitive and optional costs result in variances in punishment, Harris County contended that it violated due process and equal protection guaranteed by both the Texas and U.S. Constitution.⁸ TMCEC submitted a letter brief to the Attorney General asserting that Harris County's analysis and conclusion were incorrect.⁹ After briefs were submitted but before an opinion was issued, Harris County withdrew its request for an opinion. Since then there has been no challenge to the juvenile case manager fund. Ostensibly, if such arguments are made in the future, they would be undermined by subsequent case law from the Court of Criminal Appeals holding that court costs are not punitive but rather administrative in nature.¹⁰

V. The 81st Legislature (2009)

State Standards Proposed for Training, Qualifications, and Supervision

During the 81st Legislature, two pieces of legislation pertaining to juvenile case managers were introduced. Both bills quickly drew opposition.

H.B. 1342, and its companion S.B. 53, would have tasked the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission

(TJPC) with setting minimum standards of training and education on juvenile case managers. The proposals were criticized for not allowing TJPC to receive input from the cities and counties that employed case managers. To compound matters, the proposals stated that "to the extent possible, the commission shall adopt rules substantially similar to the rules applicable to juvenile probation officers that the commission adopts under Section 141.042." This provision was widely criticized as being vague, too restrictive, and misleading. Local governments feared that such language would inadvertently result in local governments not having any say in minimum qualifications of employment or training and that such a change in the law would have imposed a cookie cutter approach to training that would have failed to reflect the special needs of juvenile case managers.

S.B. 54 proposed to amend Article 45.056 of the Code of Criminal Procedure by adding a subsection that would have required a judge to supervise the juvenile case manager, and would have prohibited the judge from delegating that duty to the clerk of the court. This proposal faced broad opposition from municipal judges who did not want the extra responsibility of supervising employees when more than half of all municipal judges in Texas report spending less than 20 hours per month working as judge.¹¹

All legislation pertaining to juvenile case management training, qualifications, and supervision failed to pass during the 81st Legislature.

VI. The 82nd Legislature (2011)

Although the use of juvenile case managers had increased since their authorization in 2001 and the creation of the juvenile case manager fund in 2005, there was a sentiment in 2011

that the potential benefit of juvenile case managers had largely been unrealized in Texas.

Juvenile case managers were ostensibly intended by the Legislature to serve as problem solvers who foster interaction between defendants and the judge and who integrate social services into the disciplinary process by working with juveniles, parents, schools, and courts in order to best serve the interests of the juvenile and the community. Critics claimed, however, in reality that juvenile case managers were being relegated to the role of a court clerk and collections agent and the juvenile case manager fund was being misused by some local governments. Such criticism rekindled legislative proposals from 2009 and the Legislature's focus on juvenile case managers.

A. Locally Determined Standards for Training and Educational Standards

Unlike the first effort to mandate training for juvenile case managers, where state government was accused of usurping control at the expense of local government, the second effort placed the onus squarely on the shoulders of local government.¹² S.B. 61, effective June 17, 2011, amended Article 45.056 to establish minimum training and educational standards for juvenile case managers, and training in the following areas: (1) the role of the juvenile case manager; (2) case planning and management; (3) applicable procedural and substantive law; (4) courtroom proceedings and presentations; (5) services to at-risk youth under Subchapter D, Chapter 264 of the Family Code; (6) identifying and accessing local programs and services; and, (7) detecting and preventing abuse, exploitation, and neglect of children. Such training is intended to enable juvenile case managers to be more effective in their intended role as part

court clerk, part probation officer, and part social worker. The bill also required local governments to adopt a juvenile case manager code of ethics and implement disciplinary procedures. It also required governing entities to prescribe appropriate educational pre-service and in-service training standards for juvenile case managers. Other than prescribing general areas of study, all remaining details of training and implementation are determined by the employing governmental entity. A governing body that employed a juvenile case manager under Article 45.056 was required to adopt minimum training and education standards for juvenile case managers by December 1, 2011.

B. Expansion and Restriction of the Juvenile Case Manager Fund

In addition to prescribing training and education standards, S.B. 61 also amended Article 102.0174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, relating to the juvenile case manager fund. Previously, juvenile case manager funds could only be used to pay for the salaries and benefits of juvenile case managers, changes in the law now allow the fund to be used to pay for training, travel expenses, office supplies, and other necessary expenses related to the position of a juvenile case manager. In the midst of the Great Recession, this change was particularly welcomed by cash-strapped governments who employed juvenile case managers.

In the same amendment, however, S.B. 61 also placed local governments on notice that the Legislature was aware that some local governments were using the juvenile case manager fund as a subterfuge to supplement the salary of court clerks and other court personnel who were juvenile case managers in name only. Effective June 17, 2011, Article 102.0174(g) provides that “[t]he fund may not be used to supplement the income of an employee whose primary role is not

that of a juvenile case manager fund.”

Another bill, S.B. 1489, suggests future heightened scrutiny of how local governments use the juvenile case manager fund. When local governments were authorized by the Legislature to adopt the juvenile case manager fee in 2001, some governments passed ordinances and orders authorizing the collection of the fee and began saving the money until ample funds were accumulated to employ a case manager. Some of these local governments began collecting the juvenile case manager fee but never employed a juvenile case manager. Effective June 17, 2011, Article 102.0174 prohibits a local government from collecting the juvenile case manager fee if they do not employ a juvenile case manager.

It should be noted that an earlier incarnation of S.B. 1489 would have prohibited Texas cities from collecting the juvenile case manager fee, abolished existing juvenile case manager funds in all cities, and would have ended the concurrent jurisdiction that municipal courts share with justice courts in Failure to Attend School cases.

C. Case Priorities of Juvenile Case Managers

As stated, one of the unintended consequences of H.B. 1575 in 2005 was that the amendment of Article 45.056(e) of the Code of Criminal Procedure resulted in some lingering doubts about the case priorities of juvenile case managers. S.B. 209 removed the specification that juvenile case managers be employed full-time and that a case manager work *primarily on cases* relating to Failure to Attend School and Parent Contributing to Non-Attendance. It would have amended Article 45.056(e) to provide that a case manager shall *give priority to* cases alleging Failure to Attend School and Parent

Contributing to Non-Attendance. After S.B. 209 was passed into law, but before the end of the 82nd Legislature, S.B. 1489 repealed the problematic Article 45.056(e) but did not provide substitute language. Although unintended, because S.B. 1489 passed last, the presumably preferable language contained S.B. 209 (i.e., a case manager shall give priority to school attendance cases) was supplanted. Consequentially, Texas law does not currently specify the case priorities of juvenile case managers.

D. Communications from Juvenile Case Managers

As already discussed in regard to S.B. 54, the topic of juvenile case manager supervision was a divisive topic during the 81st Legislature. When initially filed, S.B. 209 was no different. However, by the time S.B. 209 cleared the House, the focus of the bill was no longer exclusively about juvenile case manager supervision. Rather, the bill began to focus more on the kind of information that should be shared with the judge by the juvenile case manager. Under the amended Article 45.056(f) (meaning that until 2013 there are two Article 45.056(f), the other pertains to juvenile case manager training), juvenile case managers must report to the judge who signed the order or judgment relating to the case and, if requested, they may need to also report to the presiding judge or the judge assigned to the case. Judges assigned to juvenile cases must consult with the juvenile case manager regarding the child and the child's home environment, developmental status, prior record, and appropriate sanctions the court should consider. Notably, these reporting and consulting requirements do not apply to a part-time judge.

(The question remains: what is a part-time judge?)

Conclusion

While the number of juvenile case manager programs operating in Texas remains relatively modest at the end of the first decade of their existence, it is important to remember that such programs are still in their infancy.¹³ It should not be a surprise that integrating an innovative and groundbreaking construct into the rigid confines and practices of the Texas judicial system has hardly been easy, especially since the aim of local trial courts has been to quickly and efficiently adjudicate criminal matters involving adults, not children.

Increasingly, Texas' public policy of issuing citations to children and using other criminal procedures has been criticized as contributing to the "classroom to prison pipeline" phenomenon.¹⁴ Similar concerns have long been held by local trial judges and more recently expressed by the Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court.¹⁵ Such criticisms and concerns will likely facilitate further statewide discussion and interest in juvenile case manager programs.

Professor Dawson's initial premise regarding the benefits of juvenile case manager programs has yet to be fully tested. Juvenile case managers may be instrumental in reducing the number of children being convicted in local trial courts, decreasing the number of transfers to juvenile court, decreasing the limited resources of juvenile probation offices, and reducing recidivism. Even if Texas substantially modifies or abandons its policy of using local trial courts to adjudicate children as criminals, it is likely that juvenile case managers will play a more extensive role in the Texas legal system.

¹ In 2009, Office of Court Administration data showed that slightly more than 420,000 children appeared in Texas municipal and justice courts. During the same time slightly more than 44,000 children were adjudicated in juvenile

courts (see, on-line, tiny URL: ow.ly/8m6rk). A review of data from the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission shows that nearly 90,000 referrals are made to the 168 juvenile probation departments serving the 254 counties in Texas. A variety of methods, including counseling, diversion, deferred prosecution, and probation are used at the local level in order to provide appropriate treatment and rehabilitation to each juvenile. See, *The State of Juvenile Probation Activity in Texas: Calendar Years 2009 & 2010* (November 2011). Currently, Texas law provides for no similar diversion from local trial courts.

² Professor Dawson was the facilitator and primary draftsman of every piece of major legislation pertaining to juveniles in Texas. He was similarly instrumental in juvenile case manager legislation until his death in 2005.

³ *City of Corpus Christi Parks and Recreation Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) FY 2006-2007 Annual Report at 3 and 7*. On line at: <http://www.ctexas.com/files/g25/JAC%20annualreport2007R.pdf>.

⁴ Article 45.056(a)(1), Code of Criminal Procedure.

⁵ Article 45.056(c).

⁶ Article 45.056(f).

⁷ Robert O. Dawson, *Texas Juvenile Law (7th Edition)* Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (2008) at 47.

⁸ See, Ryan Kellus Turner, "The Death of Local Court Costs: Are Your Juvenile Case Manager, Court Security, and Court Technology Funds in Peril?" *The Recorder* (May 2007) at 3.

⁹ *TMCEC Letter Brief to the Office of the Texas Attorney General In re RQ-0579 Challenging Constitutionality of the Juvenile Case Manager Fund* (May 11, 2007), available on-line at: http://www.tmcec.com/Resources/JCM-SB61/JCM_Links.

¹⁰ *Weir v. State*, 278 S.W.3d 364 (Tex. Crim. App. 2009).

¹¹ Ryan Kellus Turner and W. Clay Abbott, *The Municipal Judges Book* (2010) at 7-16.

¹² At the request of some Texas municipalities and with a grant from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, TMCEC formulated a special workgroup that produced an online resource to assist local governments in understanding the requirements of S.B. 61. See, <http://www.tmcec.com/Resources/JCM-SB61/>.

¹³ While the exact number of juvenile case managers employed by governmental entities in Texas is unknown, TMCEC data suggests there are more than 80 juvenile case managers provide employed by municipalities.

¹⁴Texas Applesseed, *Texas Classroom to Prison Pipeline: Ticketing, Arrests and Use of Force in Schools* (December 2010). On-line, tiny url: bit.ly/t8IUUD.

¹⁵Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson, State of the Judiciary Presented to the 82nd Legislative Session (February 23, 2011). See, on-line at: <http://www.supreme.courts.state.tx.us/advisories/pdf/SOJ.pdf>.

Information Sharing on Juvenile Justice Data

Section 51.08 of the Family Code provides that a municipal or justice court shall waive jurisdiction over a fine-only misdemeanor or penal ordinance and transfer the case to the juvenile court in two instances: (1) when the pending complaint alleges a sexting offense against a child and (2) when the child has been previously convicted of two or more, non-traffic, fine-only offenses. The exception to this “third-strike” mandatory transfer lies in the court’s implementation of a juvenile case manager program.

S.B. 1241, effective September 1, 2011, authorizes justice and municipal courts that exercise jurisdiction over a juvenile under Section 54.021 of the Family Code (County, Justice, or Municipal Court: Truancy) to have access to the state Juvenile Justice Information System. The Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS), described in Subchapter B of Chapter 58 of the Family Code, is maintained by the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Its purpose, according to Section 58.103, is to “provide agencies and personnel within the juvenile justice system accurate information relating to children who come into contact with the juvenile justice system of this state.” JJIS is based off of fingerprint identification, and as such, an inherent limitation of JJIS is that very rarely are Class C or fine-only cases involving juveniles reported to DPS. For example, a truancy case heard in juvenile court would appear in JJIS, but a Failure to Attend School case adjudicated in a municipal court would not. Access to JJIS is obtained through DPS, thus courts wanting to access this confidential information should contact DPS.

In 2001, the Legislature enacted Subchapter D of Chapter 58, allowing

local counties to jointly create and maintain a juvenile justice information system (JJIS). Section 58.304 lists the type of information that must, may, and may not be contained in a JJIS. Information relating to the intake, referral, detention, prosecution, and disposition of a juvenile’s case must be included, and to the extent possible, information on the juvenile’s description, last known address, parental information, court information for previous cases, appellate proceedings, and copies of documents filed with the court may be included. A local JJIS should involve, as partner agencies, the juvenile court, county juvenile probation department, law enforcement agencies, public school districts in the county, approved governmental service providers and placement facilities, justice of the peace and municipal courts, and prosecuting attorneys who prosecute juvenile cases in county, justice, or municipal court. Unfortunately for municipal courts, information in a local JJIS will be limited to previous dealings for that child in that county or those local counties.

To combat this limitation, in 2007, the Legislature added Subchapter E to Chapter 58, providing for a statewide juvenile information and case management system (JCMS). The same information as collected in a local JJIS will be maintained, and the same partner agencies, including municipal and justice courts, will be able to access the information. This \$13 million project was a collaborative effort of the Texas Conference of Urban Counties TechShare Program, involving the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, Bexar, Dallas, and Tarrant counties.

According to promotional literature, “JCMS will provide a continuum of information on a juvenile offender that

follows the juvenile and will assist local jurisdictions in providing the most effective rehabilitative programs and services tailored to the individual needs of the juvenile.”

The benefits of this statewide system will far surpass aiding in mandatory transfer decisions, but will help judges, prosecutors, and juvenile case managers in making effective, accurate, and appropriate disposition decisions in cases involving juveniles.

The goal for JCMS is that every county in Texas will get basic access, allowing eligible partners to view data, but not add data. Counties may purchase an enhanced TechShare Juvenile module that will provide greater access, case management options, prosecutor case management programs, school district electronic notification reporting, and, most important to municipal courts, a municipal court interface that will supply offense history, offense records, statistical reports, and reports on juveniles who fail to appear.

To maximize the true potential of the JCMS, close cooperation between partner agencies is necessary, as the JCMS will only contain information about Class C and other fine-only misdemeanor cases if the municipal or justice court is a partner. Participating in the JCMS is currently limited to Dallas, Tarrant, and Caldwell counties, but more are signed on to join. Municipal courts that handle juvenile cases or employ a juvenile case manager should be talking with their local juvenile probation departments to see if their county will be participating. Once the county purchases the program, the municipal court and municipal prosecutor can be added to the web-based access. For questions on JCMS, contact the Texas Conference of Urban Counties: (512.476.6174 or www.cuc.org.)

RESOURCES FOR YOUR COURT

Save the Date: Lifesavers 2012

The National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities is offering its 2012 Lifesavers Conference in Orlando, Florida on June 14-16, 2012. For more information, go to www.lifesaversconference.org/. The program is filled with many interesting educational sessions, as well as exhibits from traffic safety entities.

OCA Annual Report

The Office of Court Administration and Texas Judicial Council have released the 2011 Annual Statistical Report for the Texas Judiciary, which provides synopses and highlights of court activity. Excerpts from the Annual Report about municipal courts are reprinted in this issue of *The Recorder*. The entire report may be downloaded from [www.courts.state.tx.us/pubs/AR2011/toc.htm]. Also, on the OCA website, readers may find the statistical reports of the municipal courts alphabetically by city or numerically by population size.

Profile of Municipal & Justice Courts		
	<u>Justice Courts</u>	<u>Municipal Courts</u>
Number of Judges		
Number of Judge Positions	817	1,539
Age of Judges		
Mean	58	62
Oldest	88	93
Youngest	28	30
Gender of Judges		
Males	527	993
Females	288	536
Length of Service		
Average	9 Yr. 8 Mo.	8 Yr. 2 Mo.
Longest	48 Yr 6 Mo.	46 Yr 11 Mo.
First Assumed Office By		
Appointment	202 (25%)	1,508 (99%)
Election	613 (75%)	15 (1%)
College Graduated	190 (32%)	857 (63%)
Law School Graduated	60 (10%)	802 (59%)

Excerpt from FY11 Annual Report of Office of Court Administration.

Texas Court Security Incident Reports

Available online at the website of the Office of Court Administration (OCA) at www.courts.state.tx.us/oca/pdf/IncRpt-FY2011.pdf. The FY 2011 Texas Court Security Reports provides information on the 184 security incidents reported to the OCA—37 incidents or 20 percent occurred in municipal courts. Reviewing the examples and statistics shows that court security is an issue of concern to large and small courts alike. The report can be used to help document the need for court security and training in your court. TMCEC encourage courts to report incidents to OCA.

Annual Report: State Commission on Judicial Conduct

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct has released its 2011 Annual Report, which provides statistical information on the number of violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct filed, investigated, and disposed of. On page 3 of this journal is an excerpt from this publication showing examples of improper judicial conduct. Although municipal judges are the greatest in number of any type of judge in Texas (1,531 judges, 39%), only nine percent of the cases filed were for the municipal judiciary. See page 6 of this journal for illustrations.

Attention: City Secretaries

Changes by the 82nd Texas Legislature (2011) now required city secretaries to notify the Texas Judicial Council of the name of municipal judges, mayors, and the court clerk within 30 days of the person's appointment or election. See page 14 of *The Recorder* for the form.



OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

205 WEST 14TH STREET, SUITE 600 • (512) 463-1625 • FAX (512) 936-2423

P.O. BOX 12066 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2066

<http://www.txcourts.gov>

CARL REYNOLDS
Administrative Director

REPORT OF CHANGE/VACANCY IN MAYOR OR MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE OR CLERK

Section 29.013(a) of the Government Code requires the secretary of a municipality to notify the Texas Judicial Council of the name of each person who is elected or appointed as mayor, municipal court judge, or clerk of a municipal court within 30 days after the date of the person's election or appointment. The secretary is also required to notify the Texas Judicial Council of the name the mayor, municipal court judge or clerk that vacates such an office.

NOTE: Judges include the presiding judge, associate judges, alternate judges, contracted judges or another other person who serves in a judicial capacity for the city.

Appointment or Election

Name:

Position:

City/Court:

Appointed or Elected? Appointed Elected **Date Appointed or Elected:**

Email:

Phone:

Vacated position

Name:

Position:

City/Court:

Date vacated:

Return by mail to the attention of Judicial Information at the address listed above, fax to the number listed above, OR email to reporting.section@courts.state.tx.us.

MUNICIPAL COURT ACTIVITY

SOURCE: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION, ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE TEXAS JUDICIARY 2011

Cases Filed—More than 7 million cases were filed in the state’s municipal courts in 2011, a decrease of 6.6 percent from the number of new cases filed the previous year. Traffic and parking cases constituted 82.3 percent of new cases filed.

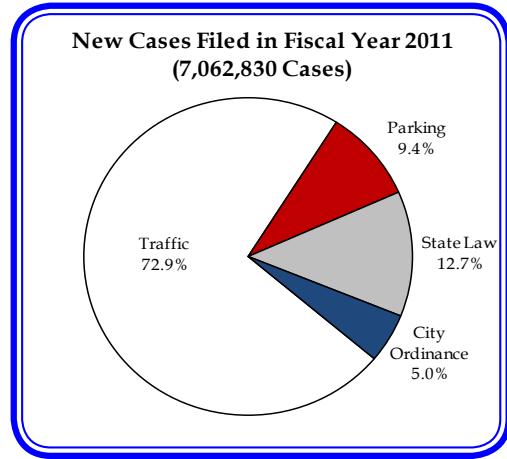
The ten most populous cities, representing 41.6 percent of the state’s population living in cities and towns, accounted for 46.0 percent of all cases filed in municipal courts. Of the ten most populous cities, Corpus Christi (population 305,215) had the lowest per capita filing rate (.21) and Houston (population 2,099,451) had the highest per capita filing rate (.54). Statewide, the per capita rate of cases filed in municipal courts was .37 cases. The highest per capita filing rate, 10.17, occurred in Estelline (population 145). The second highest per capita filing rate, 7.36, occurred in Cuneo (population 140). These rates were considerably higher than the rates in all other cities in the state.

Clearance Rates—Municipal courts disposed of 6,566,390 cases in 2011 – a decline of 4.2 percent from the previous year. Because the number of dispositions did not decline as much as the number of new cases filed decreased, the statewide clearance rate for municipal court cases rose to 93.0 percent (compared with 90.6 percent the year before). By case type, traffic cases had the highest clearance rate (95.6 percent), while city ordinance cases had the lowest clearance rate (81.7 percent).

Manner of Disposition—In 2011, municipal courts disposed of more than 5.5 million traffic and parking cases. The largest share of these cases, 37.0 percent, were disposed of by payment of a fine (without appearing before a judge) or by a bond forfeiture. Approximately 16 percent were disposed of after a bench trial or other appearance before a judge, 18.2 percent were disposed of after completion of deferred disposition or drivers’ safety, and only 0.1 percent were disposed of by a jury trial.

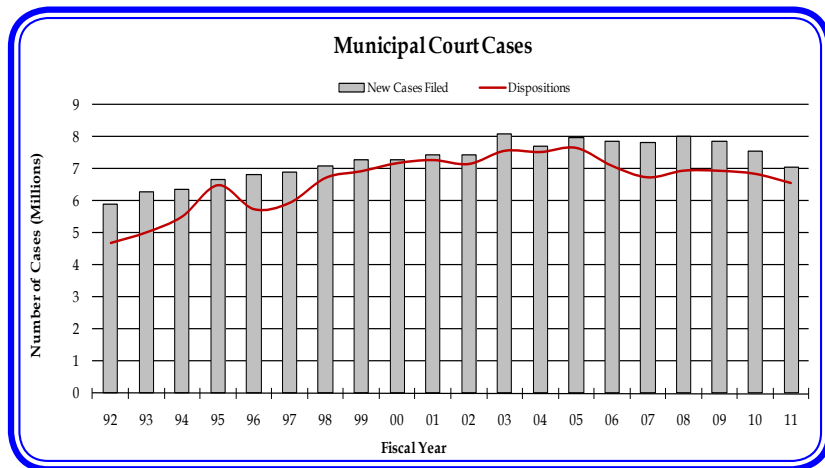
Municipal courts also disposed of more than one million state law and city ordinance cases (i.e., non-traffic cases). Approximately 36 percent of these cases were disposed of by payment of a fine or by bond forfeiture. While the jury trial rate for these cases (0.2 percent) was similar to the rate for traffic and parking cases, defendants in state law and city ordinance cases were more likely to have a bench trial or other appearance before the judge (23.9 percent) to dispose of the case.

Overall, guilty findings were made in almost all (96.7 percent) of the 1,112,944 cases that were not dismissed and went to bench trial or were otherwise disposed of by an appearance before the judge.¹ In contrast, guilty

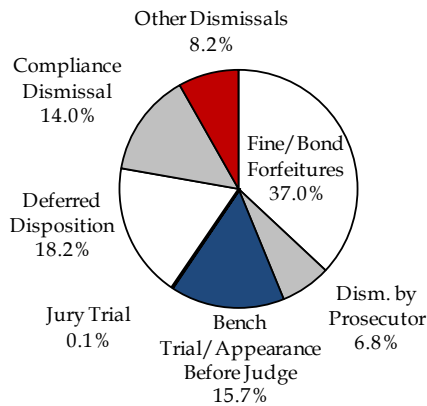


**Filings per Capita
FY 2011**

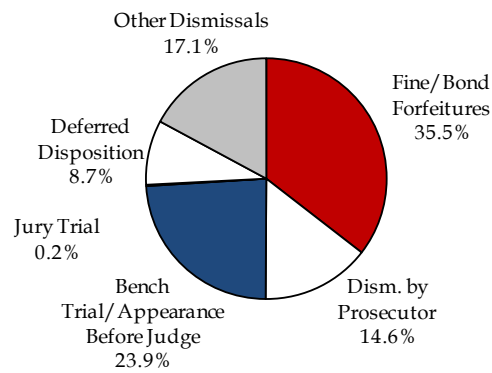
Cities with Highest Filings per Capita	Filings per Capita in 5 Most Populous Cities
Estelline - 10.17	Houston - .54
Cuneo - 7.36	San Antonio - .35
Westlake - 6.75	Dallas - .26
Palmer - 6.54	Austin - .45
Milford - 6.4	Fort Worth - .45
Statewide - .37	



Disposition of Traffic and Parking Cases
(5,539,752 Cases)



Disposition of Non-Traffic Cases
(1,026,638 Cases)



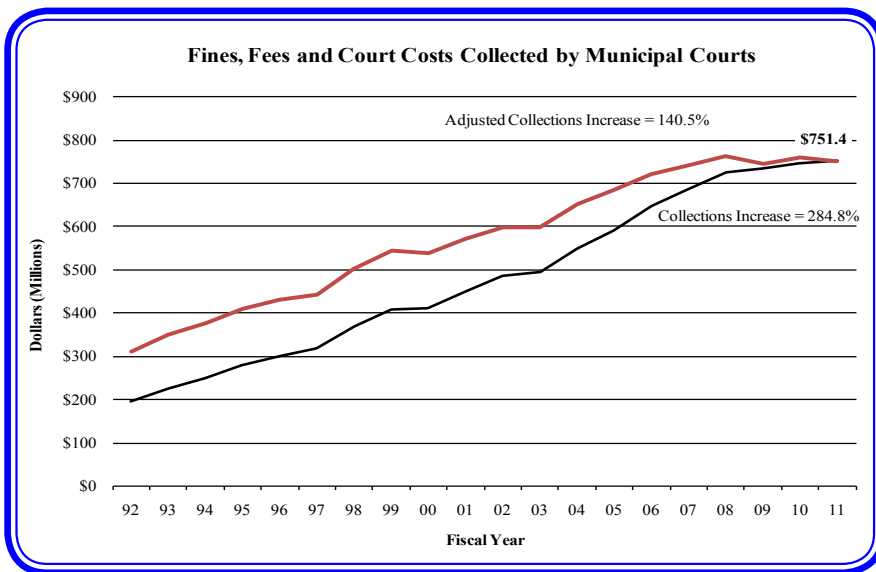
verdicts accounted for 72.3 percent of the 5,954 cases that went to jury trial.

Juvenile Case Activity – Juvenile cases filed in municipal courts decreased 3.2 percent from the previous year to 265,638 – the lowest number reported since 1999. Transportation Code (traffic) cases accounted for 38.7 percent of the juvenile cases filed in 2011. The number of cases filed under most of the juvenile case categories has fluctuated over the years. Since 2004, however, cases involving driving under the influence of alcohol declined an average of 8.5 percent per year.

Magistrate Activity – In 2011, municipal courts issued 7,849 search warrants, more than 2.9 million arrest warrants, 10,169 magistrate orders for emergency protection, and more than 306,000 magistrate warnings to adults. Search warrants, arrest warrants, emergency protective orders, and mental health hearings generally increased over the past decade. Magistrate activity in juvenile cases, however, generally declined over the decade. Certifications of juvenile statements declined 64.7 percent between 2002 and 2011 (from 1,466 in 2002 to 517 in 2011), and warnings administered to juveniles declined 62.9 percent (from 4,318 in 2002 to 1,601 in 2011). From 2009 to 2011, activity in both categories dropped sharply (by nearly 30 to 40 percent).

Court Collections – The amount of fines, fees and court costs collected by municipal courts generally increased over the last 20 years. In 2011, the courts collected approximately \$751 million – an increase of 0.6 percent from the previous year. The amount collected in 2011 was 284.8 percent higher than that collected 20 years previously in 1992, or 140.5 percent higher when adjusted for inflation.³

Excluding cases dismissed prior to trial or at trial, the amount collected per disposition averaged approximately \$139.



1. Guilty and *nolo contendere* pleas are included in the “Trial by Judge” category in the Municipal Court Activity Report.
2. Using Consumer Price Index Conversion Factors, <http://oregonstate.edu/cla/polisci/download-conversion-factors>.

Activity Report for Municipal Courts

September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011

99.6 Percent Reporting Rate					
11,050 Reports Received Out of a Possible 11,094					
	Traffic Misdemeanors		Non-Traffic Misdemeanors		REPORTED TOTALS
	Non - Parking	Parking	State Law	City Ordinance	
NEW CASES FILED	5,148,510	661,463	899,629	353,228	7,062,830
DISPOSITIONS:					
Dispositions Prior to Trial:					
<i>Bond Forfeitures</i>	25,366	751	7,199	1,586	34,902
<i>Fined</i>	1,512,381	509,537	269,468	86,101	2,377,487
<i>Cases Dismissed</i>	326,233	51,876	103,143	46,763	528,015
Total Dispositions Prior to Trial	1,863,980	562,164	379,810	134,450	2,940,404
Dispositions at Trial:					
<i>Trial by Judge</i>					
Guilty	802,871	30,547	176,738	65,747	1,075,903
Not Guilty	14,816	19,159	1,937	1,129	37,041
<i>Trial by Jury</i>					
Guilty	2,968	51	795	493	4,307
Not Guilty	1,170	46	222	209	1,647
<i>Dismissed at Trial</i>	449,647	5,121	109,097	66,927	630,792
Total Dispositions at Trial	1,271,472	54,924	288,789	134,505	1,749,690
Cases Dismissed After:					
<i>Driver Safety Course</i>	439,011	--	--	--	439,011
<i>Deferred Disposition</i>	568,484	2,798	69,546	19,538	660,366
<i>Proof of Financial Responsibility</i>	299,127	--	--	--	299,127
<i>Compliance Dismissal</i>	477,792	--	--	--	477,792
Total Cases Dismissed After	1,784,414	2,798	69,546	19,538	1,876,296
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	4,919,866	619,886	738,145	288,493	6,566,390
COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERED	183,227	973	45,598	14,810	244,608
CASES APPEALED	11,556	145	2,245	485	14,431
JUVENILE ACTIVITY:					
Transportation Code Cases Filed					102,685
Non-Driving Alcoholic Beverage Code Cases Filed					35,828
DUI of Alcohol Cases Filed					2,185
Health & Safety Code Cases Filed					6,734
Failure to Attend School Cases Filed					23,449
Education Code Cases Filed					8,272
Violation of Local Daytime Curfew Ordinance Cases Filed					8,765
All Other Non-Traffic Fine-Only Cases Filed					77,720
Waiver of Jurisdiction of Non-Traffic Cases					4,098
Referred to Juvenile Court for Delinquent Conduct					1,373
Held in Contempt, Fined, or Denied Driving Privileges					7,627
Warnings Administered					1,601
Statements Certified					517
OTHER ACTIVITY:					
Parent Contributing to Nonattendance Cases Filed					5,785
Safety Responsibility and Driver's License Suspension Hearings Held					2,733
Search Warrants Issued					7,849
Arrest Warrants Issued					
Class C Misdemeanors			2,870,284		
Felonies and Class A and B Misdemeanors			72,107		
<i>Total Arrest Warrants Issued</i>					2,942,391
Magistrate Warnings Given					
Class A and B Misdemeanors			225,401		
Felonies			81,112		
<i>Total Magistrate Warnings Given</i>					306,513
Emergency Mental Health Hearings Held					2,100
Magistrate's Orders for Emergency Protection					10,169
TOTAL REVENUE					\$751,406,046

Profile of Appellate and Trial Judges*

As of September 1, 2011

	Supreme Court	Court of Criminal Appeals	Court of Appeals	District Courts	Criminal District Courts	County Courts at Law	Probate Courts	County Courts	Justice Courts	Municipal Courts
NUMBER OF JUDGES:										
Number of Judge Positions	9	9	80	443	13	234	18	254	817	1,539
Number of Judges	9	9	80	442	13	234	18	254	817	1,532
Number of Vacant Positions	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	7
Number of Municipalities w/ Courts	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	924
Cities with No Courts	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	255
AGE OF JUDGES:										
Mean	(n = 9)	(n = 9)	(n = 77)	(n = 436)	(n = 12)	(n = 183)	(n = 15)	(n = 186)	(n = 584)	(n = 1,239)
Oldest	56	58	57	55	54	62	54	59	58	62
Youngest	67	69	74	75	67	87	67	83	88	93
	45	47	39	35	40	36	40	34	28	30
RANGE OF AGE:										
Under 25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 through 34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	17
35 through 44	0	0	5	54	1	24	2	13	34	134
45 through 54	6	1	14	131	3	75	0	33	125	292
55 through 64	2	4	46	199	7	59	11	81	251	428
65 through 74	1	4	12	51	1	21	2	51	133	267
Over 75	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	7	35	101
GENDER OF JUDGES:										
Males	(n = 9)	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 442)	(n = 13)	(n = 234)	(n = 18)	(n = 254)	(n = 815)	(n = 1,529)
Females	7	4	46	317	10	163	12	227	527	993
	2	5	34	125	3	71	6	27	288	536
ETHNICITY OF JUDGES:										
African-American	(n = 9)	(n = 9)	(n = 75)	(n = 377)	(n = 11)	(n = 182)	(n = 14)	(n = 196)	(n = 550)	(n = 1,135)
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0	1	18	3	7	0	2	19	61
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	12
Hispanic/Latino	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
White (Non-Hispanic)	2	1	7	60	0	41	2	13	107	173
Other	5	8	66	293	8	133	12	181	424	871
	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	9
LENGTH OF SERVICE:										
Average	(n = 9)	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 442)	(n = 13)	(n = 234)	(n = 18)	(n = 253)	(n = 815)	(n = 1,493)
Longest	7 Yr 11 Mo	11 Yr 5 Mo	7 Yr 2 Mo	8 Yr 0 Mo	7 Yr 11 Mo	8 Yr 11 Mo	10 Yr 6 Mo	6 Yr 3 Mo	9 Yr 8 Mo	8 Yr 2 Mo
	22 Yr 9 Mo	18 Yr 9 Mo	19 Yr 9 Mo	30 Yr 9 Mo	21 Yr 5 Mo	35 Yr 6 Mo	30 Yr 1 Mo	32 Yr 9 Mo	48 Yr 6 Mo	46 Yr 11 Mo

LENGTH OF SERVICE:

	(n = 9) 7 Yr 11 Mo	(n = 9) 11 Yr 5 Mo	(n = 80) 19 Yr 9 Mo	(n = 442) 8 Yr 0 Mo	(n = 13) 7 Yr 11 Mo	(n = 234) 8 Yr 11 Mo	(n = 18) 10 Yr 6 Mo	(n = 253) 6 Yr 3 Mo	(n = 815) 9 Yr 8 Mo	(n = 1,493) 8 Yr 2 Mo
Average	7 Yr 11 Mo	11 Yr 5 Mo	19 Yr 9 Mo	8 Yr 0 Mo	7 Yr 11 Mo	8 Yr 11 Mo	10 Yr 6 Mo	6 Yr 3 Mo	9 Yr 8 Mo	8 Yr 2 Mo
Longest	22 Yr 9 Mo	18 Yr 9 Mo	30 Yr 9 Mo	30 Yr 9 Mo	21 Yr 5 Mo	35 Yr 6 Mo	30 Yr 1 Mo	32 Yr 9 Mo	48 Yr 6 Mo	46 Yr 11 Mo

RANGE OF SERVICE ON THIS COURT IN YEARS:

Under 1 Year	0	1	9	54	1	50	7	68	130	92
1 through 4	2	0	21	131	7	50	2	74	194	475
5 through 9	5	0	20	83	2	48	1	46	163	397
10 through 14	1	6	18	78	0	39	1	25	140	233
15 through 19	1	2	12	55	1	21	3	22	96	146
20 through 24	1	0	0	27	2	20	2	15	56	63
25 through 29	0	0	0	11	0	4	1	1	22	47
30 through 34	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	1	9	23
35 through 39	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	11
Over 40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3

FIRST ASSUMED OFFICE BY:

	(n = 9)	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 442)	(n = 13)	(n = 234)	(n = 18)	(n = 249)	(n = 815)	(n = 1,523)
Appointment	6 (67%)	2 (22%)	44 (55%)	167 (38%)	4 (31%)	55 (24%)	5 (28%)	35 (14%)	202 (25%)	1,508 (99%)
Election	3 (33%)	7 (78%)	36 (45%)	275 (62%)	9 (69%)	179 (76%)	13 (72%)	214 (86%)	613 (75%)	15 (1%)

EDUCATION:

HIGH SCHOOL:	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 437)	(n = 13)	(n = 17)	(n = 206)	(n = 196)	(n = 588)	(n = 1,367)
Attended	0	0	2	0	0	1	6	30 (5%)	19 (1%)
Graduated	7 (78%)	9 (100%)	369 (84%)	11 (85%)	14 (82%)	158 (77%)	184 (94%)	545 (93%)	1,216 (89%)
COLLEGE:	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 437)	(n = 13)	(n = 17)	(n = 206)	(n = 196)	(n = 588)	(n = 1,367)
Attended	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (6%)	4 (2%)	33 (17%)	139 (24%)	146 (11%)
Graduated	9 (100%)	9 (100%)	367 (84%)	11 (85%)	15 (88%)	164 (80%)	127 (65%)	190 (32%)	857 (62%)
LAW SCHOOL:	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 437)	(n = 13)	(n = 17)	(n = 206)	(n = 196)	(n = 588)	(n = 1,367)
Attended	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	1 (1%)	2 (0%)	0 (0%)
Graduated	9 (100%)	9 (100%)	437 (100%)	13 (100%)	17 (100%)	205 (100%)	28 (14%)	60 (10%)	802 (59%)

LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW:

Number Licensed	9 (100%)	9 (100%)	442 (100%)	13 (100%)	18 (100%)	234 (100%)	18 (100%)	27 (11%)	59 (7%)	816 (53%)
Mean Year Licensed	1984	1977	1983	1981	1982	1985	1982	1983	1984	1984

YEARS LICENSED:

4 Years or Less	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
5 to 9 Years	0	0	4	0	0	6	1	0	3	44
10 to 14 Years	0	0	30	0	0	25	2	4	5	76
15 to 19 Years	1	0	57	1	1	27	1	5	10	143
20 to 24 Years	4	1	75	2	2	54	0	2	7	117
25 to 29 Years	1	2	83	3	3	56	4	5	8	115
30 or More Years	3	6	193	7	10	66	10	33	42	366

ORIGINALLY CAME TO THIS COURT FROM:

Attorney Private Practice	1 (11%)	2 (22%)	21 (26%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Judge of Lower Court	6 (67%)	3 (33%)	15 (19%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Legislative Service	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Governmental Service	2 (22%)	3 (33%)	3 (4%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:	(n = 9)	(n = 80)	(n = 437)	(n = 13)	(n = 17)	(n = 206)	(n = 196)	(n = 588)	(n = 1,367)	
Prosecutor	1 (11%)	5 (56%)	13 (3%)	4 (31%)	4 (22%)	88 (38%)	4 (22%)	7 (3%)	--	--
Attorney Private Practice	9 (100%)	8 (89%)	271 (61%)	11 (85%)	15 (83%)	119 (51%)	15 (83%)	23 (9%)	--	--
Judge of Lower Court	7 (78%)	1 (11%)	51 (12%)	2 (15%)	3 (17%)	27 (12%)	3 (17%)	10 (4%)	--	--
County Commissioner	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	13 (5%)	--	--

* Data may be incomplete, as this chart includes only information reported to OCA.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SEMINAR

The Texas Criminal Justice Integrity Unit is offering a continuing legal and judicial education seminar on March 22-23, 2012 in the Auditorium at the Texas State Capitol (E1.004). The agenda appears to be especially applicable to judges serving in community courts and as magistrates. There is no registration fee, although please register early as a free box lunch will be provided and participation is limited to 350 attendees. Please register by March 10th.

The faculty includes Judge Andrew Carruthers, Allan DuBois, Judge Barbara Hervey, Judge Oscar Kazen, Thomas Keyser, Dr. Rosemary Carr Malone, Pam Newton, Patrick J. Sammon, Ph.D, Dr. Brian Skop, Judge Polly Jackson Spencer, Dr. Susan Stone, and a representative from Alcoholics Anonymous. The program has been approved by the State Bar of Texas for 12.5 hours of CLE, including .75 hours of ethics credit.

All of the registration information can be accessed at <http://www.cca.courts.state.tx.us/tcju/cle.asp>.

Agenda

Thursday, March 22

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 Welcome
- 9:15 Tom's Story
- 10:00 Drug Abuse & Addiction: Current Drug Trends & Cultures
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 Drug Abuse & Addiction (continued)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 The Role of Support Groups in Addiction Recovery
- 2:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 Drug Abuse & Addiction (continued)
- 4:45 Recess

Friday, March 23

- 8:30 Competency in Criminal Proceedings
- 9:15 Competency Examinations
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Stop the Revolving Door – A Civil Approach to Treating Severe Mental Illness
- 1:30 Involuntary Outpatient Commitment
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Representing the Mentally Ill
- 3:15 Rewriting the Mental Health Code
- 4:15 Adjourn



TRAFFIC SAFETY

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

2012 TMCEC Driving on the Right Side of the Road (DRSR) YouTube Contest — Traffic Safety

Open to Texas Residents in Grades K-12.

2012 DRSR YouTube Video Contest Rules

BACKGROUND & THEME: The 2012 TMCEC DRSR Traffic Safety YouTube Contest asks participants to create a 30-second public service announcement (psa) video that addresses an important traffic safety issue or concern, such as dangers of driving while impaired, while distracted, or while texting. Up to six winners will be selected. All persons who contribute to the video must be under 18. Groups or classrooms may enter.

SPONSOR: The Texas Municipal Courts Education Center (TMCEC), 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite, #302, Austin, TX 78701.

ELIGIBILITY: This contest is open to residents of Texas in grades K-12. All participants must have parental consent and provide their written parental consent before their entries are considered.

STEPS TO ENTER: Eligible participants must:

1. Visit the contest page at www.drsr.info, complete the entry form, and agree to the terms of these rules.
2. Submit/post their video to <http://youtube.com> and tag it however you like, but include the tag “tmcecdrsr” anytime between February 1, 2012 and April 1, 2012. Videos must be 30 seconds long or less.
3. Provide signed parental consent and entry form that includes your YouTube username and fax to TMCEC at: 512.435.6118 or scan and email to robinson@tmcec.com.
4. Mail a high-quality copy of the video on DVD or videotape to: YouTube Contest c/o TMCEC, Attn: Lisa Robinson, 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. Suite #302, Austin, TX 78701. Include your name and your YouTube username on the copy.

Videos not posted to the Driving on the Right Side of the Road YouTube group by 5:00 p.m. CST on April 1, 2012, will not be considered. By completing the above steps, eligible persons will be entered in the contest as “Participant” and all Participants agree to the terms and rules of the contest.

CONTEST DESCRIPTION: Video entries will be accepted on YouTube beginning February 1, 2012, at 8:00 am CST (Central Standard Time) and ending on April 1, 2012, at 5:00 pm CST. From among the entries, the contest will select up to six (6) winners. Selection of the winning videos will be based on originality, creativity, adherence to the theme, and overall quality. Video submissions will be ranked by the score given by the judges. Winners agree to comply with all terms and conditions set forth in the Official Rules. Winning is contingent on fulfilling all requirements. Winners may be required to provide proof that they are the authorized account holder of the email address associated with their entry, and that they meet the grade and residency requirements.

PRIZES: Up to six (6) winners will receive a \$500 grant for traffic safety resources and materials for award recipient’s school.

ENTRIES: Entries on YouTube will be deemed made by authorized account holder of the email address submitted at the time of entry. The authorized account holder is the person assigned to an email address by an Internet access provider, or other organization responsible to assigning email addresses or the domain associated with the email address. Each entrant may enter the contest only once. Entries become the exclusive property of the Sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned.

Funded by the Texas Department of Transportation. The contest is a part of the TMCEC Driving on the Right Side of the Road program.

www.drsr.info

Parents Play Big Role in Improving Teen Driving

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens. Statistics show that teens are most likely to have a crash during the first six months after getting their license, which is primarily due to their inexperience. Research shows that parents play an important role in increasing their teen's driving skills as they have the greatest influence over their teen's behavior. In fact, leading experts believe parents play a key role in preventing teen car crashes and deaths.

A study conducted by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia shows that teens whose parents set rules, monitor their driving, and are supportive are half as likely to crash and twice as likely to use seat belts as teens with less involved parents. Parents can help by talking with their teens about safe driving practices. Spending as much time driving with your teen in many different driving situations can significantly impact your teen's future driving practices.

The Texas Graduated Driver's License Law provides parents with the controls to help keep their teen drivers safe. However, many parents are not aware of the provisions of this law. The law is divided into two phases. During phase one, the teen driver must always be accompanied by a person at least 21 years of age. During phase two, teens cannot operate a motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is younger than 21 unless the additional passengers are also family members. Driving is prohibited between midnight and 5 a.m. unless the teen is driving to attend work or a school-related activity, or responding to an emergency situation. Cell phone use is also prohibited during this second phase. Making sure your teen follows the Graduated Driver's License Law can help get a teen safely through the most critical time when driver inexperience can lead to crashes.

Here are some tips to help keep teens driving safely:

- Practice driving with your teen as often as possible.
- Discuss your rules of the road, and create a Parent-Teen Driving Agreement.
- Model good driving behavior for your teen by always using seat belts and never using a cell phone while driving.
- Share your rules with other parents and teens.

Parents can take advantage of the National Teen Driver Safety Week to talk to their teens about staying safe on the road.

For more information on National Teen Driver Safety Week, go to TeenDriverSource at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's website: http://www.teendriversource.org/more_pages/page/get_behind_national_teen_driver_safety_week_ntdsw/_teen and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/ParentsAreTheKey/parents/index.html>.



Texas Graduated Driver License Program

The Texas Graduated Driver License (GDL) Program was effective January 1, 2002, and created two phases of driving requirements for minors.

Phase One

You must be at least 15 years of age and have completed a driver's education course approved by the Texas Department of Public Safety and passed a written examination:

1. Hold a learner or hardship license for a minimum of six months.
2. Be accompanied by a person at least 21 years of age.
3. Maintain a valid learner license. If a learner license is suspended or revoked, the remaining six-month period must be completed after the suspension has ended.
4. Phase One does not apply to motorcycle (Class M) or hardship license holders.

With the completion of phase one, reaching the age of 16, and the completion of the classroom and driving portions of driver education a minor is eligible to obtain a provisional license and "graduates" to phase two.

Phase Two

Phase two restricts the driving privileges of provisional license holders, and motorcycle/moped license holders during the twelve-month period following the issuance of the license. In 2009, the "Less Tears, More Years Act" was passed into law. It amended Section 545.424 of the Transportation Code (Operation of Vehicle by Person Under Age 18 Years of Age) to provide:

- (a) A person under 18 years of age may not operate a motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device, except in case of emergency.
- (a-1) A person under 18 years of age may not operate a motor vehicle during the 12-month period following issuance of an original Class A, B, or C driver's license to the person:
 - (1) after midnight and before 5 a.m. unless the operation of the vehicle is necessary for the operator to attend or participate in employment or a school-related activity or because of a medical emergency; or
 - (2) with more than one passenger in the vehicle under 21 years of age who is not a family member.
- (b) A person under 17 years of age who holds a restricted motorcycle license or moped license may not operate a motorcycle or moped while using a wireless communications device, except in case of emergency.
- (b-1) A person under 17 years of age who holds a restricted motorcycle license or moped license, during the 12-month period following the issuance of an original motorcycle license or moped license to the person, may not operate a motorcycle or moped after midnight and before 5 a.m. unless:
 - (1) the person is in sight of the person's parent or guardian; or
 - (2) the operation of the vehicle is necessary for the operator to attend or participate in employment or a school-related activity or because of a medical emergency.
- (c) This section does not apply to:
 - (1) the holder of a hardship license;
 - (2) a person operating a motor vehicle while accompanied in the manner required by Section 521.222(d)(2) for the holder of an instruction permit; or
 - (3) a person licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to operate a wireless communication device or a radio frequency device.
- (d) For the purposes of this section, employment includes work on a family farm by a member of the family that owns or operates the farm.
- (e) A peace officer may not stop a vehicle or detain the operator of a vehicle for the sole purpose of determining whether the operator of the vehicle has violated this section.
- (f) In this section, "wireless communication device" means a handheld or hands-free device that uses commercial mobile service, as defined by 47 U.S.C. Section 332.

Upon completion of phase two, the restrictions no longer apply. This restriction will be removed at the next renewal after the phase two date expires, or the license may have the restriction removed by applying for a duplicate license at a driver license office and paying the required fee.



FROM THE CENTER



TMCEC Teen Court Planning Seminar

The City of Georgetown Teen Court was the focus of a TMCEC conference on January 30-31, 2012 as municipal court professionals from across Texas observed Georgetown's young attorneys and jury members in action. Municipal court employees from 12 cities watched and learned during a Monday night session of Teen Court with Municipal Judge Randy Stump presiding. At the January 30th court session at the Council Chamber and Courts Building, teens presented cases and defended clients in trials about traffic violations, disorderly conduct, a curfew violation, and theft.

The Teen Court Planning Seminar in Georgetown also included panel sessions on topics such as starting a teen court program, resources for teen courts, and funding. The conference was funded by the Texas Department of Transportation. Participants were welcomed by Georgetown Mayor George Garver, as well as other city officials.

Students from Georgetown High School and East View High School volunteer their time to serve as attorneys and jury members for Georgetown Teen Court, which is typically held on two evenings each month during the school year. As Judge Stump explained, Teen Court is a real court with real cases and consequences that is a part of the local court system. Students who serve as attorneys receive information about each case before the trial so they can conduct research and prepare for court. The teen attorneys can ask defendants or witnesses to take the stand for questioning. At each trial, Georgetown police officers attend and can be asked to take the witness stand and answer questions from the teen attorneys.

Youths who are 13 through 17 years-of-age charged with a Class C misdemeanor offense can choose to have their case tried in regular juvenile court or have their case tried

in Teen Court. To be eligible for Teen Court, a teen defendant must enter a plea of guilty or no contest in the case. The sentencing phase is determined at a Teen Court trial in which teens serve as the defense and prosecuting attorneys, as well as jury members. Sentences in Teen Court typically involve community service hours and service on jury duty for teen court trials.

For more information about the Georgetown Teen Court, go to <http://court.georgetown.org/teen-court>. For more information about teen courts in general, go to the Texas Teen Court Association at <http://tcat.infor/>. Additional information is also available at the National Youth Court website: www.youthcourt.net.

TMCEC expresses its appreciation to the City of Georgetown, Judge Randy Stump, Court Administrator Cathy Leloux, and Teen Court Coordinator Tina Heine for making the program possible and sharing their resources and expertise, as well as representatives of the Teen Court Association of Texas who also served on the faculty and shared many forms used in their programs (Mike Mullen of College Station, Lindsey Simpson of Longview, and Susan Wolf of Fort Worth).

Interested in Starting a Teen Court?

TMCEC is offering a second teen court planning session on April 2-3, 2012 in Georgetown. If you are interested in attending, please contact Hope Lochridge at TMCEC (hope@tmcec.com). The seminar is designed for those who do not yet have a teen court in place, but if space is available, those with existing teen courts will be admitted. There is no registration fee and travel/housing funds are available. Judges, clerks, community leaders, juvenile case managers, and city officials are eligible to attend.

Traffic Safety Conference

Interested in attending? When this issue of *The Recorder* went to print, there were still several openings in the Traffic Safety Conference to be held in Addison at the Crown Plaza Hotel on March 19-21, 2012. The agenda contains different courses than in past years, so past participants are encouraged to enroll. For those who have already attended a TMCEC regional conference this year, you can attend this for just the \$50 registration fee (plus any single room charges that apply if you want a single room). There is no additional fee for CLE.

JCM Statewide Conference

TMCEC is offering a conference to meet the needs of juvenile case managers (JCMs) working in Texas municipal courts. The conference will be held May 17-18, 2012 at the Omni Southpark in Austin.

- Registration will be \$50.00 per person.
- TMCEC will cover breakfast on both days, and lunch on the first day. Other meals will be up to the city or individual to pay.
- TMCEC will also pay for a double occupancy hotel room -- if a JCM wants his/her own room, it will be \$50.00 per night.
- Arrival day and the first night in the hotel is May 16th.

The conference agenda includes courses on *The Role of the JCM*; *Case Planning Management*; *Reading the Codes: Guidance from the Law on Setting Up a Case Manager Program*; *School Attendance Laws*; *Courtroom Proceedings & Presentations*; *What is an At-Risk Child*; *Child Abuse & Neglect: Working with CPS*; *Ethics: Working with Your Judges*; *The Adolescent Mind*; *Creating & Conducting Needs Assessment (Parent & Youth)*; and *Using ADR in Working with Youth*. These courses track the legislation that requires cities to set up training standards for JCMs.

The optional pre-conference on May 16, 2012 focuses on skill building, with courses such as *Communication & Advocacy for JCMs*; *Working with the Media*; *Working with Schools & Community Groups*; and *Fundraising & Grant Writing*.

We are first registering juvenile case managers for this conference. **Then, TMCEC will open it up to**

interested judges and clerks who want to start a juvenile case manager program. Please pass this information onto your juvenile case manager ASAP.

TMCEC **only** has funding for this conference for this year. In FY 13 it is hoped that it will be offered by the Juvenile Case Manager Association of Texas. If you want more information about that Association, please contact Carlin Caliman [Carlin.Caliman@arlingtontx.gov], who serves as its current President.

If a juvenile case manager has already attended or is registered for a TMCEC regional clerks program, he or she can still attend this program for the \$50 registration fee.

City Prosecutors Seminar

TMCEC is offering two prosecutors seminars in FY 12: March 25-27, 2012 in Houston at the Omni Westside and June 24-26, 2012 in Austin at the Omni Southpark. An agenda and registration brochure is available at <http://www.tmcec.com/Programs/Prosecutors/>.

This seminar is the only such course in Texas specifically designed to assist prosecuting attorneys in obtaining and maintaining competence in the prosecution of cases governed by Chapter 45 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Court Administrators Program

TMCEC will offer a court administrators' program in Austin on June 24-26, 2012 at the Omni Southpark Hotel. The program will include sessions on *Management Skills 101*, *Managing Emotions Under Pressure*, *Integrity & Values in Leadership*, and *Improving Your Presentation Skills*. To register, please use the registration form found on page 29 in this journal.



Bailiff/Warrant Officer/Marshal Program

In FY 12 TMCEC is offering one conference specific to Bailiffs and Warrant Officers who provide security or serve process for municipal courts. The conference will be held June 4-6, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Addison. This year's agenda will include classes on *Locating Defendants*, *Basics of Class C Criminal Case Processing*, *Enforcement Options on Adjudicated Cases*, *Dealing with Juveniles-Now-Adults*, *Warrant Round Ups and Amnesty Programs*, *Sovereign Defendants*, *Technology in Warrant Service*, *Bailiff Duties*, *Court Security*, and *Scenarios Discussions*. Licensed peace officers can receive 12 hours of TCLEOSE credit for attending. Participants can earn another four hours of credit for attending one of the two optional pre-conferences on Court Security or Legal Update (#3182). The registration fee is \$150. Brochures will be coming soon, but to register now, use the registration forms found on pages 29 and 30 in this journal.

One-Day Clinic Series

DOT and Federal Motor Carrier Law • April 17, 2012 • at the LaPorte Municipal Court

Location of Clinic: 3005 North 23rd Street, La Porte, TX 77571



Effective enforcement of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR) requires a partnership of federal, state, and local government. Effective enforcement also requires extensive training of local police in an area of little familiarity to most municipal court personnel. With the ever-expanding number of municipalities that are authorized to enforce both the FMCSRs and vehicle weight standards, municipal courts are entering this arena in increasing numbers. Join TMCEC “on the road” for a review of relevant federal and state authority and an opportunity for judges, court personnel, and prosecutors to better understand this complicated area of traffic law. An individual registration form for this clinic is available here <http://www.tmcec.com/Programs/Clinics/>.

Specialty and Problem-Solving Courts • May 30, 2012 • at the TMCEC Office (Austin)



Problem-solving courts focus on resolving the underlying chronic anti-social behaviors of defendants. The most common type of problem-solving court is the drug court, but many Texas cities are experimenting with specialty dockets to address certain defendants or types of cases. From truancy courts to animal courts, from homeless courts to community courts, this clinic will look at the legal authority for cities to implement these specialty or problem-solving courts. Participants will also hear from judges and clerks who work in these successful specialty courts to get ideas to take back to their cities. An individual registration form for this clinic is available here <http://www.tmcec.com/Programs/Clinics/>.

Each clinic is 5.0 hours in length, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and includes a one-hour lunch break with lunch provided by TMCEC. Registration is only \$20, and includes course materials and lunch. No hotel accommodations, travel reimbursement, or meals other than lunch on the day of the clinic, will be provided. Locations are subject to change.

Both clinics offer 4.0 hours of credit toward the clerk certification program, and up to 4.0 hours of MCLE credit will be submitted to the State Bar of Texas.

Participants may register online (with credit card payment) at <http://register.tmcec.com> or can download the main one-day clinic registration form (see below). The form may be mailed in with payment to 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. Suite 302, Austin, TX 78701 or faxed (with payment information) to 512.435.6118. Read below for descriptions of each clinic or to download an individual registration form specific for that clinic. Register for one or both, but register early, as space is limited!

2011 MUNICIPAL COURT WEEK

The courts listed below celebrated Municipal Courts Week (MCW) on November 7-11, 2011. A wide range of activities were offered. In FY 13, we will celebrate again on November 5-9, 2012. Start planning now!

Alice	Kennedale
Alvin	Lakeway
Austin	Lewisville
Balch Springs	McKinney
Bastrop	Pearland
Bryan	Princeton
Cockrell Hill	Richardson
College Station	Roanoke
Coppell	Round Rock
El Paso	Royse City
Forest Hill	Sanger
Georgetown	South Padre Island
Hickory Creek	Texarkana
Huntsville	Wylie
Irving	

2011 Activities included an exhibit of the rollover convincer, pancake breakfast, mayor proclamation, daily refreshments for court staff, staff luncheon, mock trial, courthouse tours, cake and balloons, ice cream cake, open house, reception, speech on traffic safety, coloring contests, free copies of the U.S. Constitution, pot luck lunch, court decorations, press release, and exhibit of traffic safety materials.

Note: If your court participated in MCW and is not listed here we apologize. Email us at tmcec@tmcec.com, please.

Errata

Revised Form: Bail Condition Where Child is Alleged Victim

TMCEC strives to provide up-to-date forms for use by municipal courts in the *TMCEC Forms Book*. Forms are updated bi-annually following each legislative session. Unfortunately, there was a change made by the 2009 Legislature that was not reflected in the Bail Condition Where Child is Alleged Victim form, found on page 42 in the Magistrate Duties chapter of the 2011 *Forms Book*.

H.B. 3751 (81st Regular Legislature) amended Article 17.41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which provides an additional condition of bail, on defendants arrested for certain sexual or assaultive offenses against a child, by prohibiting the defendant from communicating with or going near a residence, school, or other location frequented by the alleged victim. The law previously provided a magistrate with the discretion to impose this additional bail condition when the alleged victim was 12 years of age or younger. As amended, the law now mandates a magistrate to require this bail condition when the alleged victim is younger than 14 years of age. It is no longer a discretionary condition, and child victims who are 13 years of age can now be protected.

The revised form, reflecting these changes, is printed on the opposite page. The online version of the *TMCEC Forms Book*, located at http://www.tmcec.com/Resources/Books/Forms_Book, has also been updated. Simply visit the above address and download the Magistrate Duties chapter to print out a copy of this form, still on page 42.

We apologize for this error, and, as always, we appreciate your comments to the make these publications better.

BAIL CONDITION WHERE CHILD IS ALLEGED VICTIM (Art. 17.41, C.C.P.)

NO: _____

STATE OF TEXAS

§

MAGISTRATE FOR

VS.

§

§

COUNTY, TEXAS

ORDER

Penal Code Offense Charged:

- Either Chapter 21 (Sexual Offenses) or Chapter 22 (Assaultive Offenses) against a child younger than 14 years of age;
- Section 25.02 (Prohibited Sexual Conduct) against a child younger than 14 years of age; or
- Section 43.25 (Sexual Performance by a Child) involving a child younger than 14 years of age.

The Court finds that the Defendant:

- is eligible for bail in this case in the amount of \$ _____; **OR**
- is entitled to be released on personal recognizance bond in the amount of \$ _____.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that, in addition to any other conditions of bail imposed on the Defendant, the Defendant abide by the following conditions of bail:

That the Defendant not directly communicate with *(the alleged victim)* _____; and

That the Defendant not go to or near any residence, school, or other location where *(the alleged victim)* _____ normally frequents; specifically, the Defendant is prohibited from coming within _____ feet of: (1) the residence located at _____; (2) the school located at _____; and (3) other location, said location being _____ and located at _____.

IT IS ALSO ORDERED that the Defendant is granted supervised access to *(the alleged victim)* _____, only under the supervision of _____ and only at the following location: _____ and at the following time(s): _____.

To the extent that a condition imposed by this Order conflicts with an existing court order granting the Defendant possession of or access to _____, the conditions imposed by this Order prevail for a period of _____ (not to exceed 90) days.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order is effective immediately and shall continue in effect until modified by order of this Court or another court.

A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS ORDER MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE REVOCATION OR INCREASE OF HIS/HER BAIL AND SUBJECT TO CONFINEMENT UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THIS CASE.

NO PERSON, INCLUDING A PERSON WHO IS PROTECTED BY THIS ORDER, MAY GIVE PERMISSION TO ANYONE TO IGNORE OR VIOLATE ANY PROVISION OF THIS ORDER.

Signed on the ____ day of _____, 20__.

Magistrate
Municipal Judge, City of _____
_____ County, Texas

**TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER
FY12 REGISTRATION FORM:**

Regional Judges & Clerks, Juvenile Case Managers, Clinics, Court Administrators, and Traffic Safety Conferences

Conference Date: _____ Conference Site: _____

Check one:

- Non-Attorney Judge (\$50)
- Attorney Judge **not-seeking CLE credit** (\$50)
- Attorney Judge **seeking** CLE credit (\$150)
- Clerk/Court Administrator (\$50)
- Juvenile Case Manager (\$50)

- Traffic Safety Conference - Judges & Clerks (\$50)
- Assessment Clinic (\$100)
- Court Administrator Seminar - June (\$100)
- Clinics (\$20) - no housing
- Orientation (no charge)

By choosing TMCEC as your MCLE provider, attorney-judges and prosecutors help TMCEC pay for expenses not covered by the Court of Criminal Appeals grant. Your voluntary support is appreciated. The CLE fee will be deposited into the grantee's private fund account is to cover expenses unallowable under grant guidelines, such as staff compensation, membership services, and building fund.

Name (please print legibly): Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____
 Names you prefer to be called (if different): _____ Female/Male: _____
 Position held: _____
 Date appointed/Hired/Elected: _____ Years experience: _____
 Emergency contact: _____

HOUSING INFORMATION - Note: \$50 a night single room fee

TMCEC will make all hotel reservations from the information you provide on this form. TMCEC will pay for a **double occupancy room at all regional judges and clerks seminars, the level III assessment clinic, the court administrators conference, and the traffic safety conference.** To share with a specific seminar participant, you must indicate that person's name on this form.

- I request a private, single-occupancy room (\$50 per night : ____ # of nights x \$50 = \$ _____)
- I request a room shared with a seminar participant. Room will have 2 double beds. TMCEC will assign roommate **or** you may request roommate by entering seminar participant's name here: _____
- I request a private double-occupancy room, but I'll be sharing with a non-participating guest. I will pay additional cost (\$50 per night : ____ # of nights x \$50 = \$ _____). I will require: 1 king bed 2 double beds
- I do not need a room at the seminar.

Hotel Arrival Date (this **must** be filled out in order to reserve a room): _____ Smoker Non-Smoker

Municipal Court of: _____ Email Address: _____
 Court Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Office Telephone #: _____ Court #: _____ Fax: _____
 Primary City Served: _____ Other Cities Served: _____

STATUS (Check all that apply):

- Full Time Part Time Attorney Non-Attorney Juvenile Case Manager Other _____
- Presiding Judge Court Administrator Justice of the Peace
- Associate/Alternate Judge Court Clerk/Deputy Clerk Mayor (*ex officio* Judge)

I certify that I am currently serving as a municipal judge or court support personnel in the State of Texas. I agree that I will be responsible for any costs incurred if I do not cancel at least 10 business days prior to the conference. I agree that if I do **not** cancel at least 10 business days prior to the event that I am **not** eligible for a refund of the registration fee. I will first try to cancel by calling the TMCEC office in Austin. If I must cancel on the day before or day of the seminar due to an emergency, I will call the TMCEC registration desk at the conference site IF I have been unable to reach a staff member at the TMCEC office in Austin. If I do not attend the program, TMCEC reserves the right to invoice me or my city for meal expenses, course materials and, if applicable, housing (\$85 or more plus tax per night). I understand that I will be responsible for the housing expense if I do not cancel or use my room. If I have requested a room, I certify that I work at least 30 miles from the conference site. **Payment is due with the registration form. Registration shall be confirmed only upon receipt of registration form and payment.**

Participant Signature (May only be signed by participant) _____
Date

PAYMENT INFORMATION: Payment **will not** be processed until all pertinent information on this form is complete.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Registration/CLE Fee + \$ _____ Housing Fee = \$ _____

- Check Enclosed (*Make checks payable to TMCEC.*)
- Credit Card

Credit Card Payment:

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____
 Credit card type: Amount to Charge: _____
 MasterCard \$ _____
 Visa Name as it appears on card (print clearly): _____
 Authorized signature: _____

Please return completed form with payment to TMCEC at 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 302, Austin, TX 78701, or fax to 512.435.6118.

TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER
FY12 REGISTRATION FORM:
New Judges & New Clerks, Bailiffs & Warrant Officers, and Prosecutors Conferences

Conference Date: _____ Conference Site: _____

Check one:

- New, Non-Attorney Judge Program (\$200)
- New Clerk Program (\$200)
- Bailiff/Warrant Officer* (\$150)
- Non-municipal prosecutor seeking CLE credit (\$500)

- Prosecutor not seeking CLE/no room (\$200)
- Prosecutor seeking CLE/no room (\$300)
- Prosecutor not seeking CLE/with room (\$350)
- Prosecutor seeking CLE/with room (\$450)

By choosing TMCEC as your MCLE provider, attorney-judges and prosecutors help TMCA pay for expenses not covered by the Court of Criminal Appeals grant. Your voluntary support is appreciated. The CLE fee will be deposited into the grantee's private fund account is to cover expenses unallowable under grant guidelines, such as staff compensation, membership services, and building fund.

Name (please print legibly): Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____
 Names you prefer to be called (if different): _____ Female/Male: _____
 Position held: _____
 Date appointed/Hired/Elected: _____ Years experience: _____
 Emergency contact: _____

HOUSING INFORMATION

TMCEC will make all hotel reservations from the information you provide on this form. **TMCEC will pay for a single occupancy room at the following seminars:** four nights at the new judges seminars, three nights at the new clerks seminars, two nights at bailiffs/warrant officers seminar, and two nights at the prosecutors conference (if selected). To share with another seminar participant, you must indicate that person's name on this form.

I need a private, single-occupancy room.
 I need a room shared with a seminar participant. [Please indicate roommate by entering seminar participant's name: _____ (Room will have 2 double beds.)]
 I need a private double-occupancy room, but I'll be sharing with a non-participating guest. [I will pay additional cost, if any, per night]
 I will require: 1 king bed 2 double beds
 I do not need a room at the seminar.
Hotel Arrival Date (this **must** be filled out in order to reserve a room): _____ Smoker Non-Smoker

Municipal Court of: _____ Email Address: _____
 Court Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Office Telephone #: _____ Court #: _____ Fax: _____
 Primary City Served: _____ Other Cities Served: _____

STATUS (Check **all** that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Attorney	<input type="checkbox"/> Court Clerk	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Court Clerk
<input type="checkbox"/> Presiding Judge	<input type="checkbox"/> Court Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> Prosecutor	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor (<i>ex officio</i> Judge)	<input type="checkbox"/> Justice of the Peace	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate/Alternate Judge	<input type="checkbox"/> Bailiff/Warrant Officer				

***Bailiffs/Warrant Officers:** Municipal judge's signature required to attend Bailiffs/Warrant Officers' program.
 Judge's Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Municipal Court of: _____ TCLEOSE PID # _____

I certify that I am currently serving as a municipal judge, prosecutor, or court support personnel in the State of Texas. I agree that I will be responsible for any costs incurred if I do not cancel at least 10 business days prior to the conference. I agree that if I do **not** cancel at least 10 business days prior to the event that I am **not** eligible for a refund of the registration fee. I will first try to cancel by calling the TMCEC office in Austin. If I must cancel on the day before or day of the seminar due to an emergency, I will call the TMCEC registration desk at the conference site IF I have been unable to reach a staff member at the TMCEC office in Austin. If I do not attend the program, TMCEC reserves the right to invoice me or my city for meal expenses, course materials and, if applicable, housing (\$85 or more plus tax per night). I understand that I will be responsible for the housing expense if I do not cancel or use my room. If I have requested a room, I certify that I work at least 30 miles from the conference site. **Payment is due with the registration form. Registration shall be confirmed only upon receipt of registration form and payment.**

_____ *Participant Signature (May only be signed by participant)* _____ *Date*

PAYMENT INFORMATION: Payment **will not** be processed until all pertinent information on this form is complete.

Check Enclosed (*Make checks payable to TMCEC.*)
 Credit Card
 Credit Card Payment:

Credit card type:	Amount to Charge:	Credit Card Number	Expiration Date
<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	\$ _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	Name as it appears on card (print clearly): _____		
	Authorized signature: _____		

Please return completed form with payment to TMCEC at 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 302, Austin, TX 78701, or fax to 512.435.6118.

2011 - 2012 TMCEC Academic Schedule At-A-Glance

Seminar	Date(s)	City	Hotel Information
Traffic Safety Conference	March 19-21, 2012 (M-T-W)	Addison	Crowne Plaza Addison 14315 Midway Road, Addison, TX
Prosecutors Seminar	March 25-27, 2012 (S-M-T)	Houston	Omni Westside Hotel 13210 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX
Teen Court Seminar	April 2-3, 2012 (M-T)	Georgetown	TBA
Regional Judges and Clerks Seminar	April 9-11, 2012 (M-T-W)	Lubbock	Overton Hotel 2322 Mac Davis Ln, Lubbock, TX
One Day Clinic- DOT and Federal Motor Carrier Law	April 17, 2012 (T)	La Porte	La Porte Municipal Court 3005 North 23rd St., La Porte, TX
Regional Clerks Seminar	April 29-May 1, 2012 (S-M-T)	S. Padre Island	Isla Grand Beach Resort 500 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island, TX
Regional Attorney Judges Seminar	May 6-8, 2012 (S-M-T)	S. Padre Island	Isla Grand Beach Resort 500 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island, TX
Regional Non-Attorney Judges Seminar	May 8-10, 2012 (T-W-Th)	S. Padre Island	Isla Grand Beach Resort 500 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island, TX
New Judges and Clerks Orientation	May 16, 2012 (W)	Austin	TMCEC 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. Ste. 302, Austin, TX
Juvenile Case Manager Seminar	May 16-18, 2012 (W-Th-F)	Austin	Omni Southpark 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX
Regional Clerks Seminar	May 20-22, 2012 (S-M-T)	Galveston	San Luis Resort and Spa 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX
One Day Clinic- Specialty and Problem Solving Courts	May 30, 2012 (W)	Austin	TMCEC 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. Ste. 302, Austin, TX
Regional Bailiffs/Warrant Officers Seminar	June 4-6, 2012 (M-T-W)	Addison	Crowne Plaza Addison 14315 Midway Road, Addison, TX
Regional Judges and Clerks Seminar	June 11-13, 2012 (M-T-W)	El Paso	Wyndham El Paso Airport 2027 Airway Blvd., El Paso, TX
Prosecutors & Court Administrators Seminar	June 24-26, 2012 (S-M-T)	Austin	Omni Southpark 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX
New Judges Seminar	July 9-13, 2012 (M-T-W-Th-F)	Austin	Omni Southpark 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX
New Clerks Seminar	July 9-12, 2012 (M-T-W-Th)	Austin	Omni Southpark 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX

www.tmcec.com

Register Online: register.tmcec.com

Certificates of Attendance

TMCEC no longer issues seminar certificates by mail. To obtain your certificate, please visit the TMCEC website.* You will be required to log in using your TMCEC password information, this was mailed to you in 2011. If you do not have your log in information, please contact TMCEC (tmcec@tmcec.com). Certificates will be available to print 2-3 weeks after the seminar.

*Click on the link at www.tmcec.com that says "Online Registration."

**TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS
EDUCATION CENTER
1609 SHOAL CREEK BLVD., SUITE 302
AUSTIN, TX 78701
www.tmcec.com**

TMCEC MISSION STATEMENT

To provide high quality judicial education, technical assistance, and the necessary resource material to assist municipal court judges, court support personnel, and prosecutors in obtaining and maintaining professional competence.

Change Service Requested

The Recorder is available online at www.tmcec.com. The print version is paid for and mailed to you by TMCA as a membership benefit. Thank you for being a member of TMCA. For more information: www.txtmca.com.

TMCA Annual Meeting

Texas Municipal Courts Association
2012 Annual Conference: July 26-28, 2012
The Inn on Barons Creek
308 S. Washington St. 78624
Fredericksburg, TX

Call 866.990.0202 for Hotel Reservations



Look how much education the TMCA conference can offer you!!

- More than 20 hours of CLE being offered to Attorneys via live presentations, videos and discussion groups. For Clerks, more than 16 hours of continuing clerk certification hours.
- TMCA is offering you and your registered guest the opportunity to take the Concealed Handgun License

UPDATE: Visit WWW.TXMCA.COM for the latest registration form, agendas, information on CLE credit for attorneys, continuing certification credit for clerks, concealed handgun classes & more or visit us on Facebook.