



LAW LIBRARY NEWS

a publication of the Fort Bend County Law Library

Edited by: Andrew Bennett, Law Librarian

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Law Library Grand Opening

The Fort Bend County Law Library will be having its **Grand Opening** on Wednesday, **November 14th** at the Law Library on the 2nd Floor of the Justice Center Room 20716 from **10 am to 3 pm**. We will be having refreshments, snacks, and tours. In addition, we will have two one hour CLE's. One given by Lexis Nexis in the morning and one given by Thomson Reuters in the afternoon. Registration for these CLE's is required. Space is limited. Call 281-341-3718 to register. More information to follow.

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New & Updated Resources

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| <i>O'Connor's Texas Series</i> | <i>Advanced Family Law</i> |
| • CPRC Plus | • 2018 CLE Course Guide |
| • Criminal Codes Plus | |
| • 2018 Editions | |
| <i>Texas Practice Guide</i> | <i>Elder Law Portfolio</i> |
| • Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning | • Fall 2018 Update |
| • Civil Trial | |
| <i>Texas Practice Series</i> | <i>Lane Medical Litigation Guide</i> |
| • Methods of Practice | • 2018 Update |
| • {description of update} | |
| <i>Texas Criminal Practice Guide</i> | <i>Texas Family Law Practice Manual</i> |
| • 2018 Update | • 2018 Update |
| <i>Texas Litigation Guide</i> | <i>Texas Torts and Remedies</i> |
| • 2018 Update | • 2018 Update |

FBC Bar News

The **August luncheon and meeting** of the Fort Bend County Bar Association will be held at **12:00 pm** on Thursday, **September 27th** at the [Pecan Grove Plantation Country Club](#) located at 3000 Plantation Drive, Richmond, Texas. The program topic is **Software Patents & Pretrial Dismissals Based on Ineligibility**. The Speakers will be Daniel Garza and Butch Boyd. The program is approved for 1 hour CLE credit and .25 hours ethics credit. The luncheon cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. [Membership information](#) and the [RSVP Policy for Luncheons](#) are also on the website.

Please **RSVP** no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, **September 25th** by using the form on the [Next CLE Luncheon](#) page.

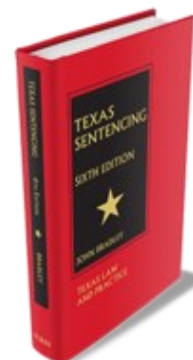
Member Resources

[Click here for Member Resources](#)

Featured Resource: Texas Sentencing 6th Edition

By Andrew Bennett

The Fort Bend County Law Library is working on expanding its criminal section to make sure we are not missing any area that you may need. To that end, we have bought a treatise on Texas Sentencing from Juris Publishing. This title, in its Sixth Edition, covers sentencing in Texas Criminal Law focusing on the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Penal Code. This annotated treatise covers all aspects of sentencing in a easy and concise book. Breaking it down by charge in the first chapter it covers punishment ranges. The next chapter discusses the sentencing procedure from pretrial to judgment. Chapters 3 thru 5 discuss post trial remedies and consequences including community supervision, early release and collateral consequences. The final chapter has forms including pretrial motions, enhancements, jury instructions, and proposed orders for those needing them. The book is written by John Bradley who has been a prosecutor since 1987 and is currently the District Attorney for Williamson County where he has been serving since 2001. He has been involved in helping the State Legislature rewrite the Penal Code and has been a member of the Punishment Standards Commission. Copies of this book can be made for \$0.10 a page. For more information, contact the Law Library.



Technology Corner

By Jonathan Briggs

In this column, we examine technology in the Law Library that you can use in your practice.

This Month's Featured Technology: *FBCLL's Basic Office Essentials*

The Law Library has been re-opened in its new location in Room 20716 on the 2nd Floor of the Justice Center for just over a month. We are glad to be getting back up to full operation and offering as many basic technological and office services to our patrons. Attorneys and pro se patrons will find that the library offers basic and essential services to allow them to work on their cases and legal matters while away from their offices and homes. We have seven computers that provide many services: access to several legal research and form databases; internet access to check e-mail, E-file documents, look up case information on the County's website, etc.; word processing ability with Word, Word Perfect, Excel, Adobe, etc.; the ability to watch incident/arrest videos with headphones; and much more. We anticipate adding three more patron computers this Fall. There are black and white and color printers. The Law Library is equipped with a fax machine. There are two black and white copiers that also have scanners. And we provide staplers, paperclips, tape, and hole punches. Printing is 10¢ per page for black and white, \$1 per page for color; copying is 10¢ per page; incoming and outgoing local faxes are \$1 per page (1-800 numbers are considered local), \$2 per page for long distance; and scanning is free. Cash or check only please. We now have two small meeting rooms available on a first come first served basis, an AV room for watching Court-required CLE, and a conference room is available by reservation only. We have doubled our table space (we now have four 4-person tables) to allow patrons space to study, fill out paperwork, etc. We even have a couple of easy chairs if you just need to come in and take a break and read the newspaper. We have been provided with a great new Law Library and we are eager and proud to serve you. For more information, please contact the Law Library.

Community News

- **Fort Bend Lawyers Care** is holding a **Community Legal Assistance Clinic** on Wednesday, **October 10th** from **6:30 to 8 pm** at the Calvary Episcopal Church. They are also hosting a **Legal Line** every Friday from **10 am to 12 pm**. **Volunteer attorneys are needed!** If you would like to help low-income residents and veterans of Fort Bend County, contact by email at Tasha@fortbendlawyerscare.org.
- The **Katy Bar Association** is holding its **August meeting and CLE** on Tuesday, **September 25th** from **11:30 am to 1 pm** at Willow Fork Country Club in Katy. It is entitled “Setting the Stage—Preparing a Company for Exit to Increase Value and Lower Stress.” For more information, visit the Katy Bar website at www.katybar.org.
- The **Family Bar of Fort Bend** is hosting a CLE on Friday, **September 21st** in the 387th District Courtroom in the Justice Center from **1:30 to 3:30 pm**. It is entitled “Real Estate Issues in Family Law.” It has been approved for 2 hours MCLE credit. Visit <https://familybarfortbend.org/events> for more information.
- The **Fort Bend County Law Library** is having it’s **Book Club** on Wednesday, **September 26th** at **2 pm** in the Law Library. The book selected is **“Gone Again”** by James Grippando.

Texas Lawyers

Assistance Program

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

To Include Items in the Newsletter

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

Express Class

Do you need a brush up on the Adobe Acrobat Pro or Microsoft Office? We are here to help! **Sign up now for Adobe Acrobat Pro, Microsoft Word, or Excel EXPRESS CLASSES!** Classes are **1 hour**, on **Thursday** mornings from **10 – 11 am**. **We teach you the basics of each program.** There are additional classes such as Hein Online, Westlaw, Lexis Advance, and O’Connor’s Online. Registration is required. Call **281-341-3718** to register.

To Unsubscribe from the Newsletter

If you do not want to receive the Law Library newsletter, please send an email to abennett@fortbend.lib.tx.us with “Unsubscribe” as the subject and include the email address to be removed.

Texas Case Law Update

Local Cases

- [Fadhil Al Masawi v. State of Texas](#), Nos. 01-17-00278/00279-CR (August 21, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (240th)
- [Fadhil Al Masawi v. State of Texas](#), No. 01-17-00280-CR (August 21, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (240th)
- [In the Matter of A.M.](#), No. 01-18-00017-CV (August 28, 2018): TC Judgment . Vacated and Case Dism'd. (CCL#1)
- [Abdul Ismail v. New Territory HOA](#), No. 01-18-00398-CV (August 30, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (CCL#3)
- [Ex Parte Christian Sauder](#), No. 01-17-00467-CR (August 30, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (CCL#1)
- [Angela Lara v. State of Texas](#), No. 01-18-00404-CR (August 30, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (268th)
- [Paula Sinclair v. State of Texas](#), No. 01-18-00479-CR (August 30, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (240th)
- [Patricio Estrada v. State of Texas](#), No. 01-18-00645-CR (August 31, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (2468h)
- [Ronald Cockrell v. State of Texas](#), No. 01-17-00914-CR (September 11, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (400th)
- [Kishwar Sharma, et al. v. Kashif Khan, et al.](#), No. 14-17-005322-CV (August 16, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (400th)
- [Long Lake, Ltd. v. Brigitte Pillittere](#), No. 14-17-00373-CV (August 16, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (240th)
- [In Re the Commitment of Jerry W. Hutyra](#), No. 14-17-00669-CV (August 16, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (268th)
- [Liberty Mutual Ins. Co. v. Buddy Trahan](#), No. 14-17-00528-CV (August 21, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (240th)
- [In the Interest of F.H., a Child](#), No. 14-18-00209-CV (August 21, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (328th)
- [Claudia Greene v. Gerald Greene](#), No. 14-18-00224-CV (August 21, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (387th)
- [Galloway, et al. for Estate of Irwin v. Atrium Medical Center, et al.](#) No. 14-17-00265 (August 23, 2018): Aff'd. TC judgment. (434th)
- [In Re Ronald Catt](#), No. 14-18-00701-CR (August 23, 2018): Appeal Denied. (400th)
- [Damon Dove v. State of Texas](#), No. 14-17-00682-CV (August 28, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (268th)
- [Steven McCoslin v. State of Texas](#), No. 14-17-00489-CR (August 28, 2018): Aff'd. TC Judgment. (CCL#2)
- [In Re Damon Dove](#), No. 14-18-00767-CR (September 11, 2018): Appeal Dism'd. (268th)

Environmental Law

- *City of Laredo v. Laredo Merchants Association*, 550 S.W.3d 586 (Tex. 2018): “Paper or Plastic?” Laredo wanted to make that question a thing of the past by passing an ordinance prohibiting merchants from providing “single use” paper or plastic bag to customers in the interest of alleviating litter and solid waste issues. Ordinance was upheld at trial. Court of Appeals reversed holding that the ordinance conflicted with the Texas Solid Waste Disposal Act which provides that a local government may adopt an ordinance in this regard if it is not authorized by State law. The Supreme Court, looking to the Legislature that passed the Act, found that its clearly written limitation on local control prohibits such an ordinance. Opinion of the Court of Appeals affirmed. Thus, using five plastic bags for five items at the grocery store express lane is still legal.

Family Law

- *In the Interest of H.S., a Minor Child*, 550 S.W.3d 151 (Tex. 2018): Mother and biological father challenged the standing of her parents (the child’s grandparents) to bring a Suit Affecting Parent-Child Relationship (SAPCR) seeking to be appointed as managing conservators with the exclusive right to designate their grandchild’s residence. Grandparents claimed standing under Family Code § 102.003(a)(9) as non-parents who had had six months or more of actual care, control, and possession of the child while mother was in alcohol rehab and father had the child every other weekend. Mother and father had intended for the arrangement to be temporary. Supreme Court found that grandparents had standing and remanded case to district court for determination on the merits.

For more information on recent cases, visit the Law Library.