



District Clerk Newsletter

Thomas A. Wilder, District Clerk



DISTRICT CLERK CORNER

Dear Legal Professionals:

These are trying times for all of us. Another year of record case filings (71,000 cases filed in 2019) and our staff turnover rate exceeded 20% again this year. Hopefully, the increase in salary levels that we got from Commissioners Court will help with turnover.

The other areas of concern are the outages from the e-filing vendor who was hired by the Supreme Court to manage e-Filing in 2014. A serious outage occurred again last week due to an unannounced update that broke the integration links.

Please be advised that our turnaround time for approving envelopes is always impacted by these outages. Even though I approve overtime for clerks to try to catch up the backlog once the system outage is resolved, we may have slowdowns that are out of our control.

Good economic times are desirable but with the lowest unemployment rate in decades and the tightest job market I have seen locally since I took office 25 years ago give rise to challenges that are difficult for all of us.

As always please contact me with any comments or suggestions at dclerk@tarrantcounty.com.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Tom Wilder".

District Clerk

DClerk@TarrantCounty.com

2020 Census



Tarrant County will be participating in a census count effort. You'll be getting notification in your e-mail regarding ways to count all residents.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/census.html>



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Maria has been a dedicated employee since 1988. During Maria's last year in high school she studied half day and worked the other half. After graduation

her teacher helped her get in the JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) summer program with Tarrant County. She transitioned into the adult program for another year until she was officially hired by the District Clerk's Office, marking the beginning of her career in June of 1988.

Maria began her career in our Family & Juvenile departments and moved to the Criminal section in 2002 and was promoted to Administrative Clerk in 2004. During her 30+ years with the County, she has encountered great friendships, met wonderful people that have come & gone, and has made remarkable memories that she will forever cherish.

Outside of work she enjoys working in her yard, going to estate sales, garage sales, walking her dog and just relaxing and enjoying family time. For the past three years, she has been busy devoting her time to events raising funds for a church in rural Mexico. She truly believes that each time she contributes to the good of the church she is blessed through her job.

Court Cost Changes 86th Legislature

The clerks' managers were heavily involved in deciphering SB346 and preparing for the first of the year. The bill completely changed the court costs in order to streamline and condense all the standalone fees. It adds certain criminal costs to the state consolidated court cost and creates a new consolidated court cost to the local level. The criminal manager, Alisia C. Morris attended TAC's legislative conference in Austin during September to prepare for the changes. SB346 repealed, reclassified and reallocated court costs, fines and fees and amended several statutes in its path. Criminal defendants that are convicted will now pay a state consolidated court cost and a local consolidated court cost along with fines that a judge may impose and any reimbursement fees that pertain to the case. We have attached the new costs and tried to simplify it as much as possible for your view.

Mandatory Court Costs		Felony	Misde-meanor	Class C
State Consolidated Court Cost	LGC, 133.102(a)(1)	\$185.00	\$147.00	\$62.00
Local Consolidated Court Cost	Local Government GC, 134.101(a)	\$105.00	\$123.00	\$14.00
	Total Mandatory Court Costs	\$290.00	\$270.00	\$76.00
Mandatory Reimbursement Fees				
(Assessed with Mandatory Court Costs)				
Peace Office Warrant Execution Fee	CCP, Article 102.011(a)(2), 102.011(e)	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Peace Officer Commit/Release Fee	CCP, Article 102.011(a)(6)	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Bond Fee (Assessed if Bonded on case)	CCP, Article 102.011(a)(5)	\$10.00	\$10.00	N/A
Visual Recording Fee (Offense specific)	CCP, Article 102.018(a)	\$15.00	\$15.00	N/A
Mandatory Fines				
(Offense specific Fines)				
Child Abuse Prevention Fine	CCP, Article 102.0186	\$100.00	\$100.00	N/A
Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Fine	CCP, Article 102.0171(a)	\$50.00	\$50.00	N/A
EMS/Trauma Care Fine	CCP, Article 102.0185	\$100.00	\$100.00	N/A
State Traffic Fine	Transportation Code, 542.4031	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
DWI Traffic Fine	Transportation Code, 709.001	Amount Varies	Amount Varies	
Optional Fine/Reimbursement Fees				
Attorney Fees	CCP, Article 26.05	Set by Judge	Set by Judge	Set by Judge
General Fine	PC, 12.32,12.33,12.34, & 12,35	Set by Judge	Set by Judge	Set by Judge
Reparation		(CSCD Cost)	(CSCD Cost)	N/A
C.V.C.A Reimbursement Fee	CCP, Article 42A.301(b)(17)	≤ \$100.00	≤ \$50.00	N/A

Above costs/reimbursement fees pronounced in court at time of disposition.

Fines are dependent on offense date.

For convictions occurring on or after 1/1/2020:

When was the offense committed?

Offense prior to 1/1/2020

- **SB 346 Court Cost Apply**
 - State Consolidated Court Costs
 - Local Consolidated Court Costs

- **Old Fines Apply**
 - General Fines for the offense from the Penal Code and the Trans. Code
 - State Traffic Fine

- **Fees Assessed at Time/Event Other Than Conviction, and That Time/Event Occurs After 1/1/2020**
 - Transaction Fee
 - Time Payment Reimbursement Fee
 - Fees assessed "upon participation"
 - Peace Officer Fees

Offense on or after 1/1/2020

- **SB 346 Court Cost Apply**
 - State Consolidated Court Costs
 - Local Consolidated Court Costs

- **Old Fines Apply**
 - General Fines for the offense from the Penal Code and the Trans. Code

- **All New Reimbursement Fees & Fines Apply**
 - SB 346 Reimbursement Fees
 - SB 346 Fines
 - General Fines for the offense from the Penal Code and the Trans. Code
 - State Traffic Fine

E-FILING RETURN FOR CORRECTION REPORT

Our staff continues to work diligently to process all e-filing in a timely manner. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

TARRANT COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

EFile Return for Correction Rates

Category	2017	2018	2019
Number of incidents w/Tyler Tech	290	471	209
Total Filings Accepted	282,306	347,939	359,062
Total Filings Rejected	23,407	29,375	26,789
Grand Total of Filings	305,713	377,314	385,851
Acceptance Rate	92.34%	92.21%	93.06%
Rejected Rate	8.29%	8.44%	7.46%

Dell Dehay Law Library

Notification:

Effective Monday, February 10th, 2020 the Law Library's new hours of operation will be 8:00am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday.



New Family IV-D Supervisor



Amanda Carter began her career as an associate clerk in the Civil section of the District Clerk's Office in 2017. In January of 2018, she accepted a position as lead clerk in the 96th Court. She was moved to the 360th Court in the Family section in November of 2019. Amanda was recently promoted as the new IV-D Supervisor in January 2020.

Amanda has two children, Landon 4 years old and Aubrey 5 months old. She enjoys spending most of her free time with her family. Her son is her "wild child" and keeps her on her toes! She says she sees so much of herself in him, just wrapped up in an adventurous little boy! Her daughter on the other hand is the complete opposite, she is so calm and the easiest baby to care for.

With two little ones to raise, she has her hands full! Amanda says with all the new changes in her life, she is certainly learning a lot.

Amanda enjoys working for the county. She loves that she's continually learning and constantly being challenged in each new role she has held. She has met great people which have turned into lasting friendships. Amanda has amazing mentors and managers who have helped her along the way. She is always trying to find the positives when others have focused on the negative. She loves to laugh and make other people laugh and she believes it's good for the soul! Amanda said since she was a young girl, she's always worked hard at trying to brighten someone's day, even if it's just with a simple smile or hello. She is so excited to see what the future holds for her in her career with Tarrant County.

Family Documents



In order to save time and money please remember to e-File your accompanying documents with your filings for Divorce and/or SAPCR such as Austin forms, Record of Support and Income Withholding for Support. Whether you decide to e-File or walk them in, having these documents ready will cut minutes off of your day.

Adoptions require: Certificate of Adoption and Certificate of Instructions for your Adoption

Terminations require: Austin forms

Default pleadings require: Certificate of Last Known Address form, Austin forms and Non-Military Affidavits

Click the Facebook link below to view our office Facebook page. Make sure to follow us for important announcements or to see what's happening at the District Clerk's office!



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Effective February 1, 2020, the 233rd District & Associate Court requires all orders to be e-Filed prior to hearing.

All orders will be electronically signed.

Web Access

Click below to sign up:



Go to

<https://dcsa.tarrantcounty.com>

to apply today!



February 17, 2020 President's Day

March 30, 2020 Cesar Chavez Day

April 10, 2020 Good Friday

May 25, 2020 Memorial Day

July 3, 2020 Independence Day

Contact Us



Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center
401 W Belknap Street



Family Law Center
200 E Weatherford Street



Tom Vandergriff Civil Courts Building
100 N Calhoun Street



Scott D. Moore Juvenile Justice Center
2701 Kimbo Road



E-filing Questions?

Call for assistance:



Family: 817-212-6954

Civil: 817-212-6953

Criminal: 817-884-1342

Felony/Civil

The Felony/Civil section of the District Clerk's office handles Expunctions, Non-Disclosures, Occupational Driver's License, Seizures and Bond Forfeiture cases.

It is located on the 3rd floor of the Tim Curry Justice Center. The Felony/Civil section currently accepts electronically filed documents for Expunctions, Non-Disclosures, Felony Occupational Drivers Licenses, Bond Forfeiture (NISI's) and Seizure cases only.

For filing fee information please refer to the District Clerk website for the most current fees.

Felony/Civil Filing Fees

Our business hours are Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm. During these hours you can reach the Felony/Civil clerks for assistance.

Michelle Farrell-Lead Felony/Civil Clerk

Lead Clerk – 817-884-2514

Luz Rodriguez –Auxiliary

Lead Auxiliary Clerk – 817-884-2508

Shawn Rosemeyer -Expunctions

Associate Clerk – 817-884-1231

Melissa Summers -Seizures

Associate Clerk – 817-884-1156

**Visit Our
Website**

www.tarrantcounty.com

Click on government

Click on District Clerk