

# Assumed Name/DBA Research Guide

## Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on Assumed Names and DBA. An Assumed Name is an alias, or “the name under which a business operates or by which it is commonly known.” In many states, Texas included, require “an individual or business operating under an assumed name to file an assumed-name certificate, usually in the secretary of state’s office or the county clerk’s office where the principal place of business is located.” DBA stands for “doing business as” and “the abbreviation usually precedes a person’s or business’s assumed name.” (*Black’s Law Dictionary, 11<sup>th</sup> ed.*) The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

## Statutes and Codes

Texas Statutes Online [www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov)

Texas Business & Commerce Code

- Ch. 71 Assumed Business or Professional Name  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/BC/htm/BC.71.htm>

Texas Administrative Code

- Ch. 79 Business Entity Filings, Subchapter C Entity Names  
[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac\\_view=5&ti=1&pt=4&ch=79&sch=C&rl=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=1&pt=4&ch=79&sch=C&rl=Y)

## Online Resources

### **O’Connor’s Texas Business & Commerce Code Plus REF KFT 1352.A29**

- Ch. 71 Assumed Business or Professional Name

### **Texas Business Organizations Manual REF KFT 1413.T493**

- Form 3-3 Assumed Name Certificate (SOS Form 503)
- Form 4-9 Abandonment of Assumed Name Certificate (SOS Form 504)

### **Texas Limited Liabilities Companies Under the Business Organizations Code Forms and Practice Manual REF KFT 1407.5 A65B6**

- § 2.3.5 Assumed Names

### **McDonald & Carlson Texas Civil Practice REF KFT 1730.M3**

- Vol. 1, § 5:6 Assumed name
- Vol. 2, § 9:36 Assumed or trade name

### **Texas Transaction Guide REF KFT 1268.K45**

- Vol. 1, §1.31[2] Registering an Assumed Business or Professional Name

## CLE Materials

### **Advanced Business Law KFT 1405.A75S7**

- 2021 Ch. 1 Legislative Update: What Just Happened in Austin?
  - Section K. Amendments to TBCC

### **Essentials of Business Law KFT 1405.A7S7**

- 2020 Ch. 7 Series Limited Liability Companies: Formation, Operation, and Practical Considerations - Section XI-C Assumed Name Certificate

Assumed Names (Tarrant County Clerk’s Office)  
<https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/county-clerk/vital-records/assumed-names.html>

Certified Copy of Assumed Name  
Application/Certificate (Tarrant County Clerk's  
Office) <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/county-clerk/vital-records/assumed-names/certified-copy-of-assumed-name-application-certificate.html>

Filing as Assumed Name (DBA) Locally in Tarrant  
County, Texas (Mastellar Law Firm, PLLC)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JL6qijeAWCk>

Name Filings FAQ (Texas Secretary of State)  
<https://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/namefilingsfaqs.shtml>

Form 503 – General Information (Assumed Name  
Certificate)  
[https://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/forms/503\\_boc.pdf](https://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/forms/503_boc.pdf)

Assumed Names in Texas (attorney blog)  
<https://lonestarlandlaw.com/assumed-names-in-texas/>

Article: How to File a DBA in Texas – TX DBA 4-Step  
Guide (FWST) <https://www.star-telegram.com/software-business/article269205372.html>

What is an assumed business name? (attorney blog)  
<https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/expert-insights/assumed-names-dba-what-you-need-to-know>

## Legal Assistance

**Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions  
(free service)**

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up  
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up  
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline>

**Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral  
Service:** 817-336-4101 (\$20 for the first 30 minutes)