

Civil Rights Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on civil rights. The rights granted to every citizen of the United States by the Constitution and all its amendments are known as civil rights. (*Black's Law Dictionary*) This guide also contains information on §1983 claims. 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

Civil Rights Act of 1964 (GovInfo)
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-342/pdf/COMPS-342.pdf>

Civil Rights Act (National Archives)
<https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/civil-rights-act>

42 U.S.C.S. § 1983 Civil Action for Deprivation of Rights
<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/1983>

Texas Human Resources Code

- §121.001 *et seq.* (Disabilities)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HR/html/HR.121.htm>

Texas Labor Code

- §21.001 *et seq.* (Employment)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LA/html/LA.21.htm>

Texas Property Code

- §301.001 *et seq.* (Housing)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PR/html/PR.301.htm>

Secondary Resources in Print

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Litigation: The Law Section 1983 KF 1325.C58N34

Section 1983, Sword and Shield: Civil Rights Violations KF 1325.C58 S42

State & Local Government Civil Rights Liability KF 1325.C58 B63

West's Texas Digest KFT 1257.W48

- Vols. 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, 8G Civil Rights

Civil Rights Actions KF 4746.5.C66

Federal Civil Rights Acts KF 4749.A745

Civil Rights in the Workplace KF 3464.P48

Emerson, Haber, and Dorsen's Political and Civil Rights in the United States KF 4748.E5

Texas Torts and Remedies KFT 1395.T49

- Vol 4:62 Civil Rights

Federal Procedure (Lawyer's Edition)

- Vol. 6 Civil Rights

Federal Procedural Forms KF 8836.F4

- Vol. 5, Ch. 10 Civil Rights

ERISA Practice and Litigation KF 3512.A6 P65

- Ch. 5.6 Statutory Provisions-Civil Remedies-Penalties

**First Amendment Law Handbook KF 4770.S9
2004-2009**

**The Legal Rights and Responsibilities of the First
Amendment's Religious Liberty Clauses KF
4783.A75 S7**

Pattern Cross-Examinations REF KF8920 .S56

- Ch. 10 Cross-Examination in Civil Rights Cases (Actions Based on Violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983)

CLE Materials

Advanced Government Law KFT 1399.G6

- 2018 Ch. 16 How to Plead a § 1983 Case

Government Law 101 KFT 1631 .G69

- 2020 Ch. 7 What's the Difference Between 1983 and the Tort Claims Act?
- 2019 Ch. 8 §1983 Liability

**Suing and Defending Governmental Entities Boot
Camp KFT 1399.A75S73**

- 2005 Ch. 9 Warning: The Red Flags of Section 1983

Online Resources

Civil Rights Complaints Northern District of Texas (USDOJ) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/civil-rights-complaints>

Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ) <https://civilrights.justice.gov/>

The Civil Rights Act of 1964: An Overview (Congressional Research Service) <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R46534.pdf>

Civil Rights Enforcement (City of Fort Worth) <https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/diversity-inclusion/civil-rights-enforcement>

Civil Rights (United States Attorney's Office) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/civil-rights-complaints>

NAACP Fort Worth: File a Complaint <https://naacpfwtc.org/file-a-complaint/>

Non-Prisoner Complaint for Violation of Civil Rights (US Courts) https://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/complaint_for_violation_of_civil_rights_non-prisoner.pdf

Texas Civil Rights Project www.txcivilrights.org
(TCRP files cases that affect the civil rights of large numbers of people and cannot take on cases involving a dispute between individual parties.)

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)