

# **OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION**

MEGAN LAVOIE Administrative Director

TO: Texas District and County Clerks

DATE: August 13, 2024

RE: Creation of the Business Court of Texas, Effective September 1, 2024

The purpose of this memo is to make you aware of the creation of the Business Court of Texas and to provide general information and instruction on the proceedings of the court and how it may affect your offices. Passed during the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature, <u>House Bill 19</u> goes into effect on September 1, 2024.

#### **General Information**

The Texas Business Court is a statewide, specialized trial court created to resolve certain complex business disputes. The business court is composed of eleven divisions. Each division is made up of the counties that compose the existing eleven <u>Administrative Judicial Regions</u>. (Please see Attachments A and B for a map of the business court divisions and a list of the counties composing them.) Divisions 1, 3, 4, 8 and 11 will be operational beginning September 1, 2024, and will each have two judges that are appointed by the Governor. The remaining six divisions will be abolished unless reauthorized by the Texas Legislature during the 2025 legislative session and funded through legislative appropriations.

#### **Business Court Clerk**

The administrative presiding judge of the Business Court will appoint a business court clerk, whose office will be in Austin at the William P. Clements Building at 300 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701. The clerk shall accept all filings for the business court and fulfill the legal and administrative functions of a district clerk.

If you have questions prior to the appointment of the clerk, please direct them to Interim Clerk, Beverly Crumley via email at <u>BCClerk@txcourts.gov</u> or by phone at (737) 710-2790.

# **Filing Fees**

#### In the Business Court:

filing fee for action originally filed in the business court	\$2500
additional filing fee for action originally filed in the business court	\$137
filing fee for action removed to the business court	\$2500
any action listed in Loc. Gov't Code § 133.151(a)(2)	\$80
any other motion	\$50
fees for services performed by the clerk same as fees in	Gov't Code §§ 51.318–.319
jury feeas or	dered by the business court

# **Original Filings in Business Court**

An original case filed in the business court shall be filed through eFileTexas to the business court clerk. The filer shall determine the proper jurisdiction by selecting the proper division within the process developed in the e-file system. If a business court division has multiple courts, the clerk will rotate assignment of the cases between the courts in the division.

If the business court or assigned division of a business court does not have jurisdiction of the action, at the option of the party filing the action, the court shall:

- (1) Transfer the action to the proper division within the business court;
- (2) Transfer the action to the proper district or county court at law in the county of proper jurisdiction; or
- (3) Dismiss the action without prejudice to the party's rights.

# Removals to Business Court – Applies only to actions filed after 9/1/2024

A party to an action filed in district court or county court at law that is within the jurisdiction of the business court may agree to remove the action to the business court.

**Notice of Removal Required** A party to an action originally filed in a district court or county court at law may remove the action to the business court by filing a notice of removal with:

- (1) the court from which removal is sought; and
- (2) the business court.

#### Notice Deadline

- (1) When Agreed. A party may file a notice of removal reflecting the agreement of all parties at any time during the pendency of the action to have the case "transferred" to business court.
- (2) When Not Agreed. The notice of removal **must** be filed:
  - (A) Within 30 days after the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business court's authority to hear the action; or
  - (B) If an application for temporary injunction is pending on the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business

court's authority to hear the action, within 30 days after the date the application is granted, denied, or denied by operation of law.

*Clerk Duties* On receipt of the notice of removal, the clerk of the court from which removal is sought **must** immediately transfer the action to the business court as a subsequent filing, using the same procedures as a transfer of venue and include the Notice of Removal with all other file documents of the file including a docket sheet and/or case summary or index of all pleadings, service documents, and orders in the case file. A transfer certificate should be used which is provided at this link: transfer certificate and attached to this memo. If the party has not filed a notice of removal with the business court, the clerk of the original court of jurisdiction should inform the party so that they may file the required notice with the business court and the clerk of the original court of jurisdiction may transfer the case to the business court under the case number issued upon receiving the notice of removal. The business court clerk will notify the parties and original court of jurisdiction of the receipt of notice of removal and business court cause number upon the filing of the notice from the party.

Customary fees for transferring a case would apply and be paid by the party requesting the transfer.

#### **Remand Process**

If the business court does not have jurisdiction of the action, the business court shall remand the action to the court in which the action was originally filed.

- (1) When required. If the business court determines, on motion or its own initiative, that the filing of the case in the business court was improper, the business court must remand the action to the court from which the action was removed.
- (2) Motion To Remand.
  - (A) A party may file a motion to remand the action in the business court on improper filing in the business court jurisdiction, except as provided in (B), the motion must be filed within 30 days after the notice of removal is filed.
  - (B) If a party is served with process after the notice of removal is filed, the party seeking remand must file a motion to remand within 30 days after party enters an appearance.
- (3) On Business Court's Own Initiative. The business court must provide the parties 10 days' notice of its intent to remand on its own initiative providing an opportunity to be heard on any objection.

*Clerk Duties* On receipt of the notice of remand, the clerk of the business court *must* transfer the action to the original court of jurisdiction, using same procedures as a transfer of venue. Customary fees for transferring a case would apply and be paid by the party requesting the transfer. The business court clerk will transfer all documents filed with the business court during the pendency of the case in the business court.

# **Actions Transferred to the Business Court**

**Transfer Request** On its own initiative, a court may request the presiding judge for the administrative judicial region in which the court is located to transfer an action pending in the court to the business court

if the business court has the authority to hear the action. In this rule, the "regional presiding judge" means the presiding judge for the administrative judicial region in which the court is located.

**Notice and Hearing** The court must notify all parties of the transfer request and, if any party objects, must set a hearing on the transfer request in consultation with the regional presiding judge. The regional presiding judge must self-assign to the court, conduct a hearing on the request, and rule on the request.

**Transfer** The regional presiding judge may transfer the action to the business court if the regional presiding judge finds the transfer will facilitate the fair and efficient administration of justice. A party may challenge the regional presiding judge's denial of a motion to transfer by filing a petition for writ of mandamus in the court of appeals district for the requesting court's county.

*Remand* A party may seek remand from the business court under Rule 355 within 30 days after transfer of the case.

*Clerk Duties* The clerk of original jurisdiction must transfer the case using efiletexas.gov and with guidance from the parties determine the proper region of the business court to transfer to. The business clerk must review and determine the transfer was assigned to the appropriate operating division of the business court. If the division has more than one judge, then the business clerk must alternate assignment of the case within the division.

# Jury Practice and Procedure; Venue for Jury Trial

A jury trial in a case filed initially in business court shall be held in any county in which the case could have been filed, as chosen by the plaintiff. If a case were removed to the business court, the jury trial shall be held in the county in which the action was originally filed. The business court and/or clerk will contact the district court and/or clerk of the appropriate county to make arrangements for the jury trial to be scheduled. The local county will follow usual procedures for summonsing jurors, creating a list of available jurors, and compensating jurors for the business court.

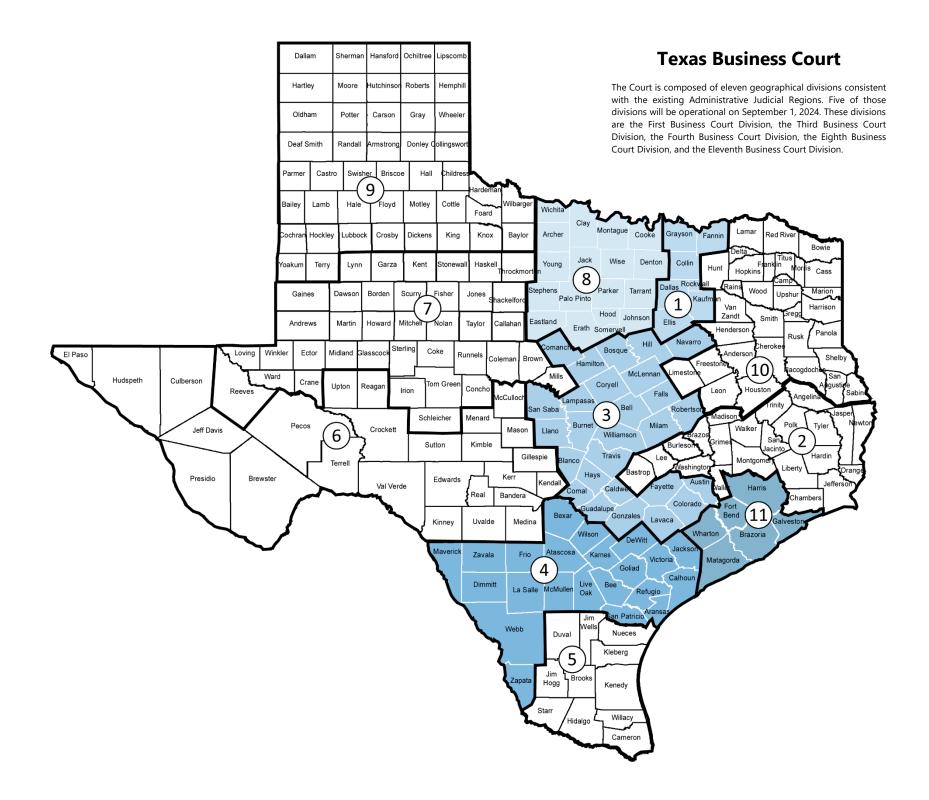
The practice would be like a change of venue proceeding.

The business court will set the jury fee in an order. The local jurisdiction providing the jury service must submit an invoice to the business court providing the information necessary to issue a jury fee order. The fee will include a \$300.00 fee for staff time in summonsing jurors and the use of a jury summons system; a fee for any needed security; a fee for juror pay and a fee for actual processing costs related to summonsing jurors, including postage, printing costs, and copy costs. The business court will allocate these fees between the parties, and the fees will be paid directly to the jurisdiction providing the services.

# **Rules Adopted by Supreme Court regarding Business Court**

Supreme Court Rules for the Business Court

Supreme Court Order for Filing Fees





# **TEXAS BUSINESS COURT**

Counties served by Business Court Division

1 <sup>st</sup> Division	3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	4 <sup>th</sup> Division	8 <sup>th</sup> Division	11 <sup>th</sup> Division
Collin	Austin	Aransas	Archer	Brazoria
Dallas	Bell	Atascosa	Clay	Fort Bend
Ellis	Blanco	Bee	Cooke	Galveston
Fannin	Bosque	Bexar	Denton	Harris
Grayson	Burnet	Calhoun	Eastland	Matagorda
Kaufman	Caldwell	De Witt	Erath	Wharton
Rockwall	Colorado	Dimmit	Hood	
	Comal	Frio	Jack	
	Comanche	Goliad	Johnson	
	Coryell	Jackson	Montague	
	Falls	Karnes	Palo Pinto	
	Fayette	La Salle	Parker	
	Gonzales	Live Oak	Somervell	
	Guadalupe	Maverick	Stephens	
	Hamilton	McMullen	Tarrant	
	Hays	Refugio	Wichita	
	Hill	San Patricio	Wise	
	Lampasas	Victoria	Young	
	Lavaca	Webb		
	Llano	Wilson		
	McLennan	Zapata		
	Milam	Zavala		
	Navarro			
	Robertson			
	San Saba			
	Travis			
	Williamson			

CAUSE NO.

<style case="" of=""></th><th>§</th><th>IN THE <district/county> COURT FOR</th></tr><tr><td>vs.</td><td>§</td><td>THE <court number/judicial district></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>§</td><td><your county>COUNTY, TEXAS</td></tr></tbody></table></style>
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#### TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§
	§
COUNTY OF <your county=""></your>	§

I, <Clerk's name and title>, in and for <your county> County, Texas do hereby certify that the following are true and correct electronic copies of each final order, the order to transfer, bill of costs, and any other documents requested, including previous transfer certificates (if applicable), in the transfer of this cause to (transferred county) County, Texas:

INDEX

File Date Document

#### GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, < CurrDate >.

<affix court seal>

<Clerk's name, title>

<your county> COUNTY, TEXAS

Deputy

#### STATEMENT OF RECEIPT

Transfer received from <transferring county> County, Texas, Cause No. <\_CaseNum\_> and filed into the <court number/judicial district> <county/district> Court of <Transferred county> County, Texas to Cause No.<CaseNum> on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

<affix court seal>

<Clerk's name, title>

<transferred county> COUNTY, TEXAS

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy <\_UserLogged\_>

# Supreme Court of Texas

Misc. Docket No. 24-9037

# Final Approval of Rules for the Business Court

#### **ORDERED** that:

- 1. On February 6, 2024, in Misc. Dkt. No. 24-9004, the Court preliminarily approved Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 352-359 and amendments to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 2, Canon 6 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, and Texas Rules of Judicial Administration 2, 3, 4, 6.1, and 7, and invited public comment.
- 2. Following the public comment period, the Court made revisions to the rules. Except as provided in paragraph 3, this Order incorporates the revisions and contains the final version of the new and amended rules, effective September 1, 2024. The new rules are shown in clean form, whereas the amendments are demonstrated in redline form.
- 3. Amendments to Rule of Judicial Administration 7, including the proposed changes in Misc. Dkt. No. 24-9004, were finalized on February 20, 2024, in Misc. Dkt. No. 24-9006. Accordingly, those changes are not included in this Order.
- 4. The Clerk is directed to:
  - a. file a copy of this Order with the Secretary of State;
  - b. cause a copy of this Order to be mailed to each registered member of the State Bar of Texas by publication in the *Texas Bar Journal*;
  - c. send a copy of this Order to each elected member of the Legislature; and
  - d. submit a copy of this Order for publication in the *Texas Register*.

Dated: June 28, 2024.

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice

Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice

Je 5 Just ce

John <sup>5</sup>. Dev Justic ne

es D. Blacklock, Justice Ja

ett Busby, Justice

ne N. Bland, Justice

Rebeca A. Huddle, Justice

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#### TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

#### **RULE 2. SCOPE OF RULES**

These rules shall govern the procedure in the justice, county, and district, and business courts of the State of Texas in all actions of a civil nature, with such exceptions as may be hereinafter stated. Where any statute in effect immediately prior to September 1, 1941, prescribed a rule of procedure in lunacy, guardianship, or estates of decedents, or any other probate proceedings in the county court differing from these Rules, and not included in the "List of Repealed Statutes," such statute shall apply; and where any statute in effect immediately prior to September 1, 1941, and not included in the "List of Repealed Statutes," prescribed a rule of procedure in any special statutory proceeding differing from these rules, such statute shall apply. All statutes in effect immediately prior to September 1, 1941, prescribing rules of procedure in bond or recognizance forfeitures in criminal cases are hereby continued in effect as rules of procedure governing such cases, but where such statutes prescribed no rules of procedure in such cases, these rules shall apply. All statutes in effect immediately prior to September 1, 1941, prescribing rules of procedure in tax suits are hereby continued in effect as rules of procedure governing such cases, but where such statutes prescribed no rules of procedure in such cases, these rules shall apply; provided, however, that Rule 117a shall control with respect to citation in tax suits.

# **Notes and Comments**

<u>Comment to 2024 change: Rule 2 is revised to modernize the rule and clarify</u> that the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure govern the procedures in the business court.

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#### PART III – RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COURTS OF APPEALSPRACTICE IN THE BUSINESS COURT

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#### **RULE 352. THE BUSINESS COURT GENERALLY**

Chapter 25A, Government Code, and Parts I, II, III, and VI of these rules govern the procedures in the business court. If there is any conflict between Parts I, II, and VI and Part III, Part III controls.

#### Notes and Comments

Comment to 2024 change: Part III of these rules is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Chapter 25A.

#### **RULE 353. FEES FOR BUSINESS COURT ACTIONS**

The Office of Court Administration and the business court must publish a schedule of business court fees. Parties must pay the fees as specified in the schedule, except the business court must waive fees for inability to afford payment of court costs, consistent with Rule 145, and may otherwise waive fees in the interest of justice.

#### **Notes and Comments**

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 353 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Section 25A.018.

#### RULE 354. ACTION ORIGINALLY FILED IN THE BUSINESS COURT

- (a) *Pleading Requirements.* For an action originally filed in the business court, an original pleading that sets forth a claim for relief—whether an original petition, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third party claim—must, in addition to the pleading requirements specified in Part II of these rules, plead facts to establish the business court's authority to hear the action. An original petition must also plead facts to establish venue in a county in an operating division of the business court.
- (b) *Clerk Duties*. The business court clerk must assign the action to a division of the business court. If the division has more than one judge, then the clerk must randomly assign the action to a specific judge within that division.

- (c) *Challenges.* 
  - To Venue. A motion challenging venue must comply with Rules 86 and 87.
  - (2) To Authority. A motion challenging the business court's authority to hear an action must be filed within 30 days of the movant's appearance.
- (d) Transfer or Dismissal.
  - (1) Venue Transfer. If the business court determines, on a party's motion, that the division's geographic territory does not include a county of proper venue for the action, the business court must:
    - (A) if an operating division of the business court includes a county of proper venue, transfer the action to that division; or
    - (B) if there is not an operating division of the business court that includes a county of proper venue, at the request of the party filing the action, transfer the action to a district court or county court at law in a county of proper venue.
  - (2) Authority. If the business court determines, on a party's motion or its own initiative, that it does not have the authority to hear the action, the business court must:
    - (A) if the determination was made on its own initiative, provide at least 10 days' notice of the intent to transfer or dismiss and an opportunity to be heard on any objection; and
    - (B) at the request of the party filing the action:
      - (i) transfer the action to a district court or county court at law in a county of proper venue; or
      - (ii) dismiss the action without prejudice to the parties' claims.

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 354 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Sections 25A.006(a)-(c) and 25A.020(a)(2). Texas Government Code Section 25A.004 specifies the business court's authority to hear an action.

#### RULE 355. ACTION REMOVED TO THE BUSINESS COURT

- (a) *Notice of Removal Required.* A party to an action originally filed in a district court or county court at law may remove the action to the business court by filing a notice of removal with:
  - (1) the court from which removal is sought; and
  - (2) the business court.
- (b) *Notice Contents.* The notice must:
  - (1) state whether all parties agree to the removal;
  - (2) plead facts to establish:
    - (A) the business court's authority to hear the action; and
    - (B) venue in a county in an operating division of the business court; and
  - (3) contain a copy of the district court's or county court at law's docket sheet and all process, pleadings, and orders in the action.
- (c) *Notice Deadline.* 
  - (1) When Agreed. A party may file a notice of removal reflecting the agreement of all parties at any time during the pendency of the action.
  - (2) When Not Agreed. If all parties have not agreed to remove the action, the notice of removal must be filed:
    - (A) within 30 days after the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business court's authority to hear the action; or
    - (B) if an application for temporary injunction is pending on the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business court's authority to hear the action, within 30 days after the date the application is granted, denied, or denied by operation of law.

- (d) *Effect of Notice*. A notice of removal to the business court is not subject to due order of pleading rules. Filing a notice of removal does not waive a defect in venue or constitute an appearance waiving a challenge to personal jurisdiction.
- (e) *Clerk Duties.* On receipt of a notice of removal, the clerk of the court from which removal is sought must immediately transfer the action to the business court. The business court clerk must assign the action to the appropriate operating division of the business court. If the division has more than one judge, then the clerk must randomly assign the action to a specific judge within that division.
- (f) *Remand*.
  - (1) When Required. If the business court determines, on motion or its own initiative, that removal was improper, the business court must remand the action to the court from which the action was removed.
  - (2) Motion to Remand.
    - (A) A party may file a motion to remand the action in the business court based on improper removal. Except as provided in (B), the motion must be filed within 30 days after the notice of removal is filed.
    - (B) If a party is served with process after the notice of removal is filed, the party seeking remand must file a motion to remand within 30 days after the party enters an appearance.
  - (3) On Business Court's Own Initiative. The business court must provide the parties 10 days' notice of its intent to remand on its own initiative and an opportunity to be heard on any objection.

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 355 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Section 25A.006(d)-(g), (i)-(j) and Section 25A.020(a).

# RULE 356. ACTION TRANSFERRED TO THE BUSINESS COURT

(a) *Transfer Request.* On its own initiative, a court may request the presiding judge for the administrative judicial region in which the court is located to transfer an action pending in the court to the business court if the business court has the authority to hear the action. In this rule, the "regional presiding judge" means the presiding judge for the administrative judicial region in which the court is located.

- (b) *Notice and Hearing.* The court must notify all parties of the transfer request and, if any party objects, must set a hearing on the transfer request in consultation with the regional presiding judge. The regional presiding judge must self-assign to the court, conduct a hearing on the request, and rule on the request.
- (c) *Transfer*. The regional presiding judge may transfer the action to the business court if the regional presiding judge finds the transfer will facilitate the fair and efficient administration of justice. A party may challenge the regional presiding judge's denial of a motion to transfer by filing a petition for writ of mandamus in the court of appeals district for the requesting court's county.
- (d) *Remand*. A party may seek remand from the business court under Rule 355 within 30 days after transfer of the case.
- (e) *Clerk Duties.* The business court clerk must assign the action to the appropriate operating division of the business court. If the division has more than one judge, then the clerk must randomly assign the action to a specific judge within that division.

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 356 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Section 25A.006(k).

# RULE 357. EFFECT OF DISMISSAL OF AN ACTION OR CLAIM

If the business court dismisses an action or claim and the same action or claim is filed in a different court within 60 days after the dismissal becomes final, the applicable statute of limitations is suspended for the period between the filings.

#### **RULE 358. APPEARANCE AT BUSINESS COURT PROCEEDINGS**

Rule 21d governs remote proceedings in the business court, except:

- (a) the business court must not require a party or lawyer to appear electronically for a proceeding in which oral testimony is heard absent agreement of the parties; and
- (b) the business court must not allow or require a participant to appear electronically for a jury trial.

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 358 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Section 25A.017.

#### RULE 359. MAKING A RECORD

Each judge of the business court must appoint an official court reporter from a pool selected by the Office of Court Administration. A court reporter for the business court may serve more than one judge. Unless otherwise requested by the parties, a court may make a record by electronic recording consistent with Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 13.

#### **RULE 360. WRITTEN OPINIONS IN BUSINESS COURT ACTIONS**

- (a) *When Required.* A business court judge must issue a written opinion:
  - (1) in connection with a dispositive ruling, on the request of a party; and
  - (2) on an issue important to the jurisprudence of the state, regardless of request.
- (b) *When Permitted.* A business court judge may issue a written opinion in connection with any order.

# Notes and Comments

Comment to 2024 change: Rule 359 is adopted to implement Texas Government Code Section 25A.016.

# TEXAS CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT

# Canon 6: Compliance with the Code of Judicial Conduct

# A. The following persons shall comply with all provisions of this Code:

- (1) An active, full-time justice or judge of one of the following courts:
  - (a) the Supreme Court,
  - (b) the Court of Criminal Appeals,
  - (c) courts of appeals,
  - (d) district courts,
  - (e) criminal district courts,
  - (f) statutory county courts, and
  - (g) statutory probate courts<del>., and</del>
  - (h) the business court.

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# TEXAS RULES OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

#### **Rule 2. Definitions**

In these rules:

a. "Chief Justice" means the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

b. "Presiding Judge" means the presiding judge of an administrative region.

c. "Administrative region" means an administrative judicial region created by Section 74.042 of the Texas Government Code.

d. "Statutory county court" means a court created by the legislature under Article V, Section 1, of the Texas Constitution, including county courts at law, county criminal courts, county criminal courts of appeals, and county civil courts at law, but not including statutory probate courts as defined by Section 3(ii) of the Texas Probate Code.

e. <u>"Business court" means a court created by Section 25A.002 of the Texas</u> <u>Government Code.</u>

# **Rule 3. Council of Presiding Judges**

a. There is hereby created the Council of Presiding Judges, composed of the Chief Justice as chairman and the <u>nineeleven</u> presiding judges of the administrative regions.

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# **Rule 4. Council of Judges**

a. There is hereby created in each of the administrative regions a Council of Judges, composed of the Presiding Judge as Chairman, judges of the district courts, and statutory county courts, and business court within the region, senior judges, and former district and statutory county court judges residing in the region who have qualified to serve as judicial officers under the provisions of Section 74.055 of the Texas Government Code.

b. The Presiding Judge shall call at least one meeting each year of the Council of Judges of the administrative region, at a time and place designated by the Presiding Judge, for consultation and counseling on the state of the dockets and the civil and criminal business in the district and statutory county courts of the administrative region and arranging for the disposition of cases and other business pending on the court dockets. At the meeting, the Council shall study and act upon the matters listed in Rule 3.e and such other matters as may be presented to the meeting by the judges in attendance.

c. The Council of Judges shall adopt rules for the administration of the affairs of the district and statutory county courts within the administrative region, including, but not limited to, rules for:

(1) management of the business, administrative and nonjudicial affairs of the courts;

(2) docket management systems to provide the most efficient use of available court resources;

(3) the reporting of docket status information to reflect not only the numbers of cases on the dockets but also the types of cases relevant to the time needed to dispose of them;

(4) meaningful procedures for achieving the time standards for the disposition of cases provided by Rule 6;

(5) such other matters necessary to the administrative operations of the courts; and

(6) judicial budget matters.

d. The expenses of judges attending meetings of the Council of Judges may be paid from funds provided by law.

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# Rule 6. Time Standards for the Disposition of Cases.

# Rule 6.1 District, and Statutory County, and Business Courts.

District-<u>, and statutory county-court</u>, and business court judges of the county in which cases are filed should, so far as reasonably possible, ensure that all cases are brought to trial or final disposition in conformity with the following time standards:

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# Supreme Court of Texas

Misc. Docket No. 24-9047

# Fees Charged in the Supreme Court, in Civil Cases in the Courts of Appeals, Before the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation, and in the Business Court

#### **ORDERED** that:

Effective September 1, 2024, the following fees apply except to persons exempt by law.

#### In the Supreme Court:

petition for review	
additional fee if petition for review is granted	\$75
original proceeding	\$155
additional fee if original proceeding is granted	\$75
certified question from a federal court of appeals	
direct appeal to the Supreme Court	
any other proceeding filed in the Supreme Court	
administering an oath with sealed certificate of oath	\$5
certified copy including certificate and seal\$	60.50 per page, \$5 minimum
comparing and certifying copy of document\$	60.50 per page, \$5 minimum
motion for rehearing	\$15
motion not otherwise listed	\$10
exhibit tendered for oral argument	\$25

# In the Courts of Appeals:

appeal from a district or county court	\$205
original proceeding	\$155
administering an oath with sealed certificate of oath	\$5
certified copy including certificate and seal certification \$1.00 per page,	\$5 minimum
comparing and certifying copy of document\$1.00 per page,	\$5 minimum
motion for rehearing or for en banc reconsideration	\$15
motion not otherwise listed	\$10

exhibit tendered for oral argument\$25
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#### In the Supreme Court and the Courts of Appeals:

<sup>1</sup> A Court may authorize additional, reasonable charges for personnel, overhead, or document retrieval for services provided by the clerk or by contract with an outside entity.

#### Before the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation:

motion to transfer to pretrial court	\$275
appeal of a pretrial court order by motion for rehearing	
any other motion or document	\$50

#### In the Business Court:

filing fee for action originally filed in the business court <sup>2</sup>	\$2500
additional filing fee for action originally filed in the business court <sup>3</sup>	\$137
filing fee for action removed to the business court <sup>2</sup>	\$2500
any action listed in Loc. Gov't Code § 133.151(a)(2) <sup>4</sup>	\$80
any other motion <sup>2</sup>	\$50
fees for services performed by the clerk <sup>2</sup> same as fees in Gov't Code §§ 51	1.318–.319
jury fee <sup>5</sup> as ordered by the busi	ness court

 $^2$  This fee will be distributed to the fund to cover the costs for administering the business court.

 $^3$  This fee stems from Loc. Gov't Code § 133.151 and will be distributed to the various state funds that would normally receive the fee as set out in that section.

<sup>4</sup> This fee stems from Loc. Gov't Code §§ 133.151 and 135.101 and will be distributed as follows: \$45 to the various state funds that would normally receive the fee as set out in § 133.151 and \$35 to the fund to cover the costs for administering the business court.

<sup>5</sup> The business court will set the jury fee in an order. The fee will include a \$300 fee for staff time in summonsing jurors and the use of a jury summons

system; a fee for any needed security; a fee for juror pay pursuant to Gov't Code §§ 61.001, 61.002, and 61.0015; and a fee for actual processing costs related to summonsing jurors, including postage, printing costs, and copy costs. The jurisdiction providing the jury services must submit an invoice so that the business court will have the information necessary to issue the jury fee order. The business court will allocate these fees between the parties, and the fees will be paid directly to the jurisdiction providing the services.

The fees for filings and actions in the business court have been adopted pursuant to H.B. 19. *See* Act of May 25, 2023, 88th Leg., R.S., ch. 380, § 1 (H.B. 19) (adopting TEX. GOV'T CODE § 25A.018). The order supersedes the fee provisions in Misc. Docket Nos. 15-9158 (August 28, 2015), 13-9127 (August 16, 2013), 07-9138 (August 28, 2007), 03-9151 (September 10, 2003), and 98-9120 (July 21, 1998).

Dated: July 26, 2024.

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice

Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice

Je Just ce

John P. Dev Justice ne

D. Blacklock, Justice Ja

t Busby, Justice

ne N. Bland, Justice

Rebeca A. Huddle, Justice

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