

INFORMATION FOR FILING A DIVORCE – PRO SE – HOCKLEY COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

THE DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE **DOES NOT SUPPLY FORMS NECESSARY TO FILE FOR DIVORCE.**
WE ARE NOT ATTORNEY'S AND ARE LEGALLY PROHIBITED FROM GIVING ANY LEGAL ADVICE.

If you intend to represent yourself "Pro Se" (without the assistance of an attorney) you must have knowledge to prepare and file the necessary pleadings and present your cause to the Court.

The only suggestions or advice that we can offer is that you see the "Pro Se Divorce Handbook" you can find this handbook at http://www.tyla.org/family_law.html. Another good web site is <http://www.texaslawhelp.org> or the **Legal Aid Society(806-894-1112) has an office in the basement of the Hockley County Library**, if you do not qualify for their services, they can check your documents to see if they are prepared correctly.

If you are filing an **UNCONTESTED DIVORCE WITH NO CHILDREN & NO PROPERTY** you may go to:
<https://selfhelp.efiletexas.gov/srl> to prepare the paperwork for your divorce.

PROCEDURES FOR FILING YOUR OWN DIVORCE

1. Bring your original petition and 2 copies to the District Clerk's office to be filed.
2. The filing fees are: Divorce where spouse signs a waiver\$ 263.00 **Due at the time of filing**
Divorce with a citation in Hockley County\$ 346.00
Divorce with a citation to another County\$ 271.00 plus you will be responsible for
having the citation served in the other county

3. Your petition will be filed and assigned a cause number in the 286th Judicial District Court. Please have the cause number available when contacting our office concerning your case.

The District Clerk phone number is 806-894-8527. Our hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

4. The petition must be on file for at least **60 days** before the final hearing can be held.

5. After the 60 days have expired and your paperwork is in order, you may appear before the Court to have the final decree entered. To obtain a hearing call the court coordinator at 806-894-8240.

6. When you come to the courthouse for your final hearing bring your **Original Decree** and 2 copies, and the completed vital statistic form required, which may be picked up in the District Clerk's office.

7. Report to the Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse and wait for the Court to call your case. **The Judge cannot assist you with your divorce. You must know how to present your case in the courtroom.**

8. If you or your spouse will be receiving child support, you must return to the District Clerk's Office and give required information to set up a child support account that will be collected and disbursed thru the State Disbursement Unit in San Antonio.

9. Pursuant to Local Court Rule 3.04 effective 03-01-08,

In any suit involving the parent-child relationship, except uncontested adoptions and terminations, all parties shall successfully complete a children's interest seminar and file their certificate of completion with the Clerk. Each party will be responsible for payment of the appropriate fees. The seminar shall be completed prior to the final hearing. Failure to successfully complete the seminar may result in sanctions under Rule 215, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, contempt of court, or delay of the final hearing. For good cause shown, the Judge may waive the requirement of completion of the seminar. If such seminar has been completed, no additional attendance is required in the event of motions to modify or enforce.

YOU MAY ALSO RECEIVE A CERTIFIED COPY OF YOUR DECREE AFTER YOUR DECREE IS GRANTED.

THE COSTS IS \$1 PER PAGE.

WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT LEGALLY HELP YOU WITH ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, BUT PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 806-894-8527 FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

THANK YOU DENNIS PRICE, DISTRICT CLERK, HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS