

CLOCK TOWER QUARTERLY

Vol. 4



Dell DeHay Law Library Contact Information

Hours:

Monday — Friday

8am — 4pm

Note: Computers log off automatically at 4pm.

Phone Number:

817-884-1481

Email:

lawlibrary@tarrantcountytexas.gov

100 W. Weatherford, Room 420
Fort Worth, TX 76196

In This Issue

Deputy Rick's Retirement, p.1

Family Law Resources, p. 2

National Library Week, p. 3

Spring Announcements, p.4

Library Resources & Legal Aid
Information, p. 5



Assistant Director Amanda (left) and Director Cara (right) laughing it up with Deputy Rick at his Retirement Party in January 2024. He will be missed by Dell DeHay Law Library staff!
Congratulations on retirement, Rick!



Family Law Forms

Dell DeHay Law Librarians print a selection of the forms packets for patrons to purchase at a cost of \$0.25 per page. Many forms come from Texas Law Help — they provide fill-in-the blank forms for many family law situations, including but not limited to divorce, child custody, adult adoption, name change, and modification of prior custody orders. **It is important to note that there are not fill-in-the-blank forms for every legal situation.** Some situations require the creation of forms from legal templates.

The forms that are available are designed for *pro se* individuals representing themselves in family court. Librarians may also email certain resources for free. By law, librarians are not permitted to help fill out forms, but they can provide information for speaking with an attorney and/or legal aid.

Email library staff at lawlibrary@tarrantcountytexas.gov if you have a specific question in regard to our website and/or would like resources emailed to you.

Cause Number: _____
(Print court information exactly as it appears on the Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship)

In the Interest of the following Minor Child(ren):
(Print the initials of each child.)

1. _____ In the _____ Court Number _____
 2. _____ District Court
 3. _____ County Court at Law
 4. _____
 5. _____ County, Texas

Counter-Petition in Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship

My name is: _____
First Middle Last

I am the **Respondent and Counter-Petitioner**, the person asking the Court to make orders about the child or children named below.

My driver's license was issued in (State) _____ The last three numbers of my driver's license number are: _____
 Or I do not have a driver's license.

The last three numbers of my social security number are: _____
 Or I do not have a social security number.

I am: (Check one.)
 not related to the child(ren).
 related to the child(ren). I am the child(ren)'s: _____
Write your relationship to the child(ren).

1. Discovery Level
 The discovery level in this case, if needed, is Level 2.

2. Child(ren)
 I ask the Court to make orders about the following child(ren):

Child's name	Date of Birth	County and State where child lives now
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE DATA.

Cause Number: _____
(Print cause number and other court information exactly as the court assigned.)

In the Matter of the Marriage of

Petitioner: _____ In the _____ Court Number _____
Print first, middle and last name of the spouse filing for divorce.

And _____
 District Court
 County Court at Law

Respondent: _____ County, Texas
Print first, middle and last name of other spouse.

Final Decree of Divorce

A hearing took place on _____ Date _____
 There was no jury. Neither the husband nor wife asked for a jury.

1. Appearances

Petitioner
 The Petitioner's name is: _____
First Middle Last
 The Petitioner is the: (Check one box.) husband wife.

(Check one box.)
 The Petitioner **was present**, self-represented, and announced ready for trial.
 The Petitioner **was present**, self-represented, and agreed to the terms of this Final Decree of Divorce (called "Decree" throughout this document).
 The Petitioner **was not present** but has signed on page 9 agreeing to the terms of this Decree.

Respondent
 The Respondent's name is: _____
First Middle Last
 The Respondent is the: (Check one box.) husband wife.

(Check one box.)
 The Respondent **was present**, self-represented, and announced ready for trial.
 The Respondent **was present**, self-represented, and agreed to the terms of this Decree.
 The Respondent **was not present**, but filed an Answer or Waiver of Service and has signed on page 9 agreeing to the terms of this Decree.
 The Respondent **was not present**, but filed a Global Waiver that waived Respondent's right to notice of this hearing and did not otherwise appear.
 The Respondent **was not present**, but was served and has defaulted. The Petitioner has filed a Certificate of Last Known Address and a Military Status Affidavit.

FM-DWA-201 Final Decree of Divorce [Divorce Set A] (Rev. 11-2021) Page 1 of 9
© TexasLawHelp.org

Left: A sample Counter-Petition for SAPCR (Suit Affecting the Parent Child Relationship) Right: A sample Final Decree of Divorce. Both are examples of fill-in-the blank forms available on Texas Law Help's website.

Family Law Workshops

Do you have questions about going to court?

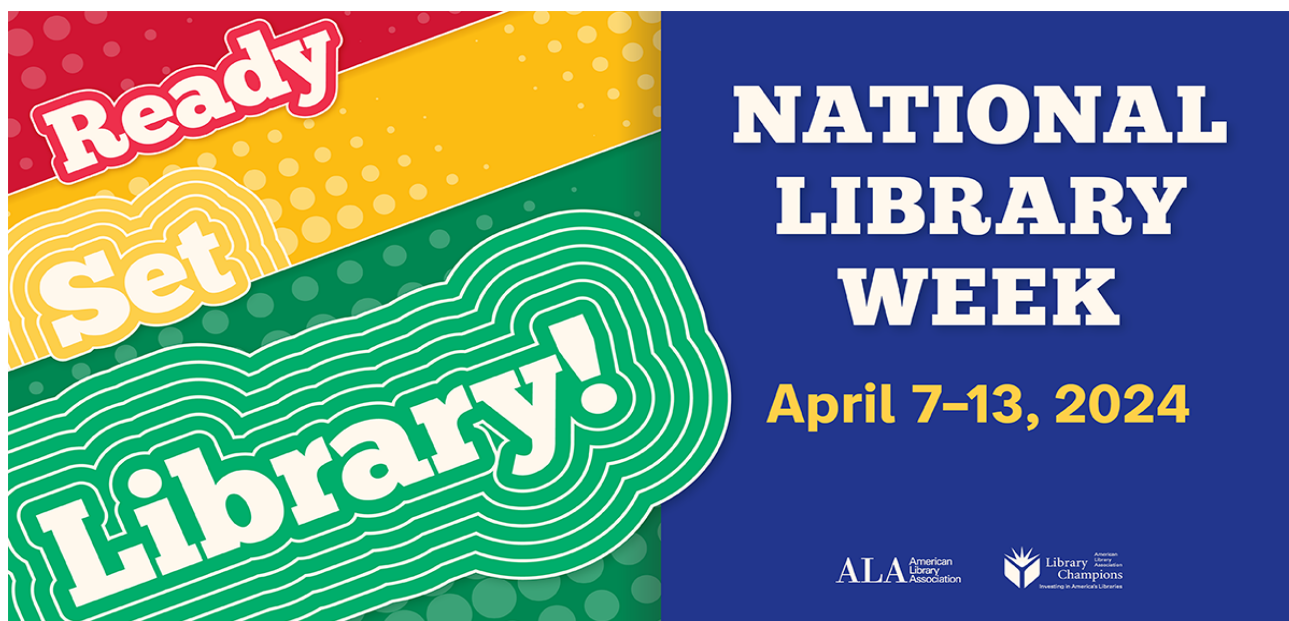
Twice a month, Tarrant County's Domestic Relations Office hosts Family Law Workshops on the 3rd floor of the 1895 Courthouse. General information will be presented by Tarrant County attorneys on the legal process as it pertains to family law cases. Attorneys cannot represent you.

The workshops will be held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10am.

**April 4th & 18th
 May 2nd & 16th
 June 6th & 20th**

For additional information, please visit the Tarrant County Domestic Relations Office website at <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/domestic-relations-office/legal-enforcement/family-law-workshop.html>.

The workshops are for family law cases only.



National Library Week, April 7th-13th 2024

The Dell DeHay Law Library is celebrating National Library Week with the community! Each day will have a different theme, including free giveaways and a photo booth to take pictures with your phone.

Monday, April 8:

Total Solar Eclipse Day!

Grab some solar eclipse glasses from us and witness the total solar eclipse! Be sure to take a selfie at the photo booth.

Tuesday, April 9:

Celebrate National Library Workers Day!

Come meet our staff and help us complete a Tarrant County Courthouse jigsaw puzzle.

Wednesday, April 10:

Enjoy a free cup of coffee to help get you through Wednesday and grab some library stickers.

Thursday, April 11:

Tour the Law Library and receive library swag

Friday, April 12:

Paint a kindness rock, color your own bookmark, or complete a National Library Week word search.

While supplies last.

County Holidays
Memorial Day May 27
Juneteenth June 19th

Announcements

Access to Bloomberg Law

Tax season is upon us! Come to the Law Library for your tax research. Bloomberg Law is available for use in the law library year-round. It is limited to one public computer terminal. First come, first served.

Please note that the Law Library staff are not able to assist with the filing of tax returns.



New Display Case!

The Dell DeHay Law Library recently acquired a display case to display historical materials related to Tarrant County history. If you have historic artifacts you would like to showcase, let us know! Contact us by calling (817) 884-1481 or by emailing us at lawlibrary@tarrantcountytexas.gov.

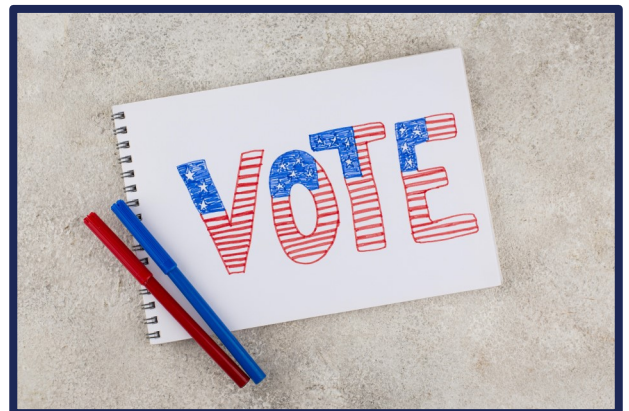
Voter Registration and Election Dates for Spring 2024

The next Joint General and Special election day is **May 4th**.

Early voting will be **April 22-30**, and the deadline to register for the Primary Runoff Election is **April 29th**.

To register, visit <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/index.html>. Answers to frequently asked questions in regard to voter registration are available online at <https://www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html>.

Questions? Contact Tarrant County Elections Administration at (817) 831-8683



Virtual Court Kiosk

Texas Legal Services Center partnered with the Law Library to provide a Virtual Court Kiosk in Tarrant County. It is a computer station where you can attend virtual court or find legal help. Access to the kiosk is first come, first served. To schedule, contact the Law Library.



Law Library Research Guides

Librarians at the Dell DeHay Law Library create Research Guides which are useful to patrons researching a specific legal question or topic. We currently have 127 research guides available. Guides are arranged both alphabetically and topically on our website.

- **Alphabetical List:** <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/law-library/forms>.
- **Topical List:** <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/law-library/research-guides/research-guide-in-topical-order.html>.

Law Library's Online Access to Forms

The Law Library also has commonly requested fill-in-the-blank forms available on its Forms webpage, accessible at www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/law-library/forms.html. It is important to note that there are not fill-in-the-blank forms for every situation. Contact the Law Library if you do not see information on your legal research topic.

Tarrant County Legal Assistance

- **Legal Aid of Northwest Texas (LANWT)** is income based legal aid for residents of Northwest Texas. Visit www.lanwt.org to apply online. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Call 817-336-3943 to apply if you are involved in a family law case, domestic violence situation, have a legal deadline, and/or have been served a lawsuit.
- **Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service.** Call 817-336-4101. The attorneys in this referral program have agreed to 30-minute consultations for \$20.00. You are not obligated to retain the attorney after the initial meeting.
- **Tarrant County Legal Line Sign-Up** is a community service program offered on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month. Volunteer attorneys answer legal questions and make referrals to local legal or social service agencies. Sign up at <https://www.tarrantbar.org/?pg=LegalLine>.
- **Texas Lawyer's for Texas Veterans** provides legal aid for veterans. Visit the TLTV Tarrant County website at <https://txltv.org>.



About the Authors

Brittany Schick has a background in academic libraries, most notably Dallas College, where she worked as a reference librarian. She graduated with her Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of North Texas in 2009. She has worked at the Dell DeHay Law Library for two years. Some of her duties include providing reference services and assisting with compiling research guides. Her favorite hobbies are reading and writing. She is thankful for the opportunity to share her love of both with the community.

Amanda Hill has served as the Assistant Law Library Director since 2021, but began working for Tarrant County in 2014. She holds a Master's in Arts in History from Texas Christian University, with experience in material culture studies and archives. She also oversees the Law Library's website, research guides, and historical collections.