

# Supreme Court of Texas

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Misc. Docket No. 21-9120

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## Preliminary Approval of Amendments to Canon 6(B) of the Code of Judicial Conduct

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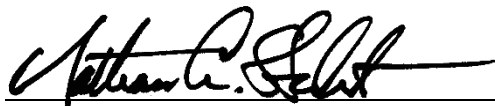
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**ORDERED** that:

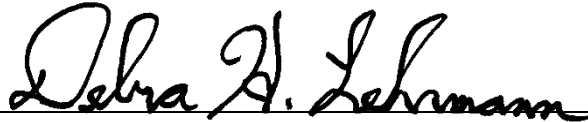
1. The Court preliminarily approves the amendments to Canon 6(B) of the Code of Judicial Conduct set out in this order.
2. The amendments authorize a constitutional County Judge who performs judicial functions to act as an arbitrator or mediator for compensation under the circumstances stated in Canon 6(B)(3). The Code has long authorized Justices of the Peace and Municipal Court Judges to engage in arbitration and mediation. The language added to Canon 6(B)(3) is imported directly from Canon 6(C)(1)(c), which applies to Justices of the Peace and Municipal Court Judges.
3. The Court will issue a final approval order at least 60 days after publication of the amendments in the November edition of the *Texas Bar Journal*. The amendments may change in response to public comments.
4. Comments should be sent to [rulescomments@txcourts.gov](mailto:rulescomments@txcourts.gov). The Court requests that comments be sent by December 31, 2021.
5. 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 the Order for publication in the *Texas Register*.

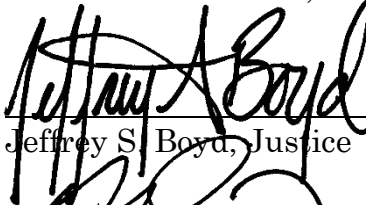
Dated: September 23, 2021



Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice



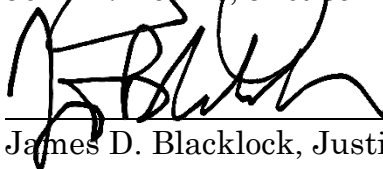
Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice



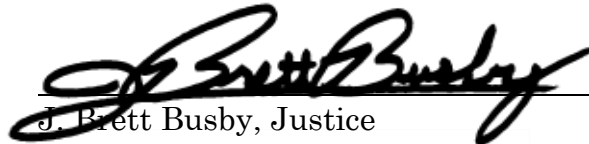
Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice



John P. Devine, Justice



James D. Blacklock, Justice



J. Brett Busby, Justice



Jane N. Bland, Justice



Rebeca A. Huddle, Justice

## Canon 6: Compliance with the Code of Judicial Conduct

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### **B. A County Judge who performs judicial functions shall comply with all provisions of this Code except the judge is not required to comply:**

- (1) when engaged in duties which relate to the judge's role in the administration of the county;
- (2) with Canons 4D(2), 4D(3), or 4H;
- (3) with Canon 4F, unless the court on which the judge serves may have jurisdiction of the matter or parties involved in the arbitration or mediation;
- (~~3~~ 4) with Canon 4G, except practicing law in the court on which he or she serves or in any court subject to the appellate jurisdiction of the county court, or acting as a lawyer in a proceeding in which he or she has served as a judge or in any proceeding related thereto.
- (4 ~~5~~) with Canon 5(3).

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