

# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 93-0056

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## APPROVAL OF RULES OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE EIGHTH ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIAL REGION

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### **ORDERED:**

Pursuant to Rule 3a of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, the Supreme Court approves the following regional rules, which have been previously approved by the presiding judge of the appropriate administrative judicial region and submitted to this Court:

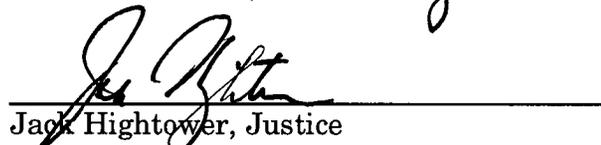
Rules of Administration of the Eighth Administrative Judicial Region, dated October 1, 1987.

The approval of these rules is temporary, pending further orders of the Court.

SIGNED AND ENTERED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1993.

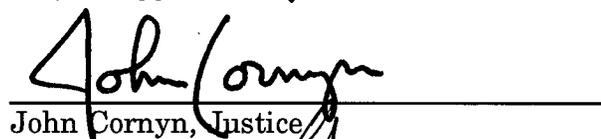
  
Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

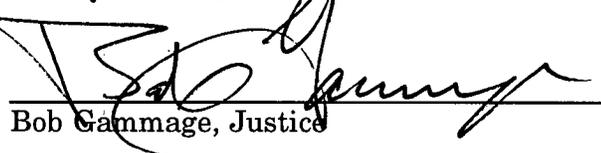
  
Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice

  
Jack Hightower, Justice

  
Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

  
Lloyd Doggett, Justice

  
John Cornyn, Justice

  
Bob Gammage, Justice

  
Craig Enoch, Justice

  
Rose Spector, Justice

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EIGHTH ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIAL REGION  
RULES OF ADMINISTRATION

AUTHORITY. These rules are promulgated pursuant to Article 200a-1, V.T.C.S., and Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Administration, adopted February 4, 1987.

- RULE 1: The general rule with respect to disposition of cases.
- RULE 2: The specific requirements as to the information to be supplied by or to the administrative judges' of each county.
- RULE 3: The rule governing the disposition of civil cases.
- RULE 4: The rule governing the disposition of family law and juvenile cases.
- RULE 5: The rule governing the disposition of felony and misdemeanor cases.
- RULE 6: The rule governing the selection and control of juries.
- RULE 7: The rule with respect to judges' vacations, absences, etc.
- RULE 8: The rule with respect to rules.
- RULE 9: The rule with respect to local courts administration.
- RULE 10: The rule with respect to attorneys having conflicting engagements.
- RULE 11: The rule with respect to attorneys' vacations.

RULE 1. TIME STANDARDS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF CASES. District and statutory county court judges of the county in which cases are filed should, as far as reasonably possible, ensure that all cases brought to trial or final disposition in conformity with the following time standards:

a. CRIMINAL CASES

As provided by law with preference given to defendants held in local custody.

b. CIVIL CASES OTHER THAN FAMILY LAW

(1) Civil Jury Cases

Within 18 months from appearance date.

(2) Civil Nonjury Cases

Within 12 months from appearance date.

c. FAMILY LAW CASES

(1) Contested Family Law Cases

Within 6 months from appearance date or within 6 months from the expiration of the waiting period provided by the Family Code where such is required, whichever is later.

(2) Uncontested Family Law Cases

Within 3 months from appearance date or within 3 months from the expiration of the waiting period provided by the Family Code where such is required, whichever is later.

d. JUVENILE CASES

As provided by Title 3, Texas Family Code or other applicable law.

e. COMPLEX CASES

It is recognized that in especially complex cases or special circumstances it may not be possible to adhere to these standards.

RULE 2. The local administrative judge of each county shall cause the proper clerk to send the regional presiding judge a copy of the report sent each month to the Office of Court Administration, and such other information regarding docket management systems of the county as may be requested by the presiding judge.

RULE 3. The board of judges or judges giving preference to civil cases in each county must adopt and uniformly follow local rules governing the filing, docketing and assignment of civil cases to achieve the time standards of Rule 6, Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Administration, and meet the requirements of Rules 7, 9, and 10, Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Administration.

RULE 4. The board of judges or judges giving preference to family law and juvenile cases in each county must adopt and uniformly follow local rules governing the filing, docketing and assignment of family law and juvenile cases to achieve the time standards of Rule 6, Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Administration, and meet the requirements of Rules 7, 9, and 10, Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Administration.

RULE 5. The board of judges or judges giving preference to criminal cases in each county must adopt and uniformly follow local rules conforming with the Code of Criminal Procedure, for the processing of criminal cases.

RULE 6. The board of judges of each county must adopt a jury plan governing the selection, management, assignment and time of jury service, and file the same with the district clerk, and, when required, secure the approval of the commissioners court.

RULE 7. The board of judges of each county must adopt a plan for judicial absences for vacation and educational events and a method of notifying the regional presiding judge of the need for visiting judges.

RULE 8. (a) The rules adopted by the several counties within each administrative region must conform to the requirements of these rules.

(b) The local rules must be numbered to cover the same subject matter as prescribed by these rules using a section numerical system and decimal subsection system in accordance with the following description of content. Local rules shall use a decimal system allowing for a larger group of special circumstances. 1.1, 1.11, 1.12, 1.2, 1.21; 2.1-10.99.

(c) Local rules shall not be effective until approved by the presiding judge of the administrative region and by the Supreme Court of Texas.

RULE 9. The Board of Judges of each county must adopt as a part of the local rules a rule providing for regular meetings of the judges, committee assignments and other designations of duties necessary to the work of the courts of the county as required by Chapter 5, Article 200a-1, V.T.C.S.

RULE 10. CONFLICTING ENGAGEMENTS.

(a) Attorney already in trial in another court:

(1) When an attorney is presently in trial, said attorney shall inform other courts of the court and cause number of the conflicting trial. This information will be verified upon request of opposing counsel. The case will be placed on "hold" or reset, depending on when the attorney will be released.

(2) If the attorney is not actually in trial as represented by the attorney or his or her agent, the case will be tried without further notice.

(b) An attorney assigned to more than one court for the same date:

(1) It is the duty of an attorney to call the affected judges' attention to all multiple settings as soon as they are known.

(2) Insofar as practicable, judges should attempt to agree on which case has priority, otherwise, the following priorities shall be observed by the judges of the respective courts:

(1) Criminal cases.

(II) Cases given preference by statute.

(III) Preferentially set cases.

(IV) Case with earliest filing date.

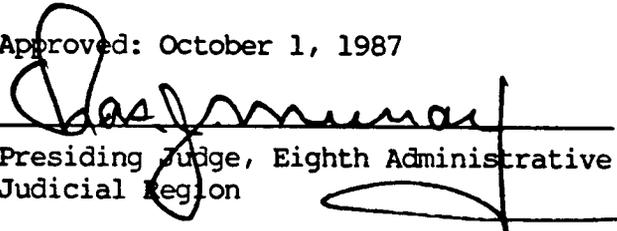
(V) Case set at earliest date by court official.

(VI) Courts should yield to courts in rural counties in an instance of conflicting setting where necessary to utilize a called jury panel.

RULE 11. ATTORNEY VACATIONS. Local courts shall establish rules providing, except when a case has been previously set, for attorneys vacations including provision for length of vacation and time of advance notice to the Court.

Adopted: October 1, 1987 by Council of Judges, Eighth Administrative  
Judicial Region.

Approved: October 1, 1987

  
Presiding Judge, Eighth Administrative  
Judicial Region



THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

CHIEF JUSTICE  
THOMAS R. PHILLIPS

POST OFFICE BOX 12248      AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

TEL: (512) 463-1312

FAX: (512) 463-1365

CLERK  
JOHN T. ADAMS

JUSTICES  
RAUL A. GONZALEZ  
JACK HIGHTOWER  
NATHAN L. HECHT  
LOYD DOGGETT  
JOHN CORNYN  
BOB GAMMAGE  
CRAIG ENOCH  
ROSE SPECTOR

EXECUTIVE ASS'T.  
WILLIAM L. WILLIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASS'T.  
MARY ANN DEFIBAUGH

February 9, 1993

Hon. Jeff Walker  
Presiding Judge  
8th Administrative Judicial Region  
1st Floor, Tarrant County Courthouse  
Fort Worth, Texas 76196

Dear Judge Walker,

Please find enclosed, a copy of the order of the Supreme Court that approved rules of administration for your region. Please note that the Court has temporarily approved these rules pending further orders.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

John T. Adams  
Clerk

Encl.

cc: Supreme Court Adv Committee

Mr. Raymond Judice  
Office of Court Admin

State Law Library



STATE OF TEXAS

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

Post Office Box 12066  
Austin, Texas 78711-2066  
512/463-1625

C. Raymond Judice  
Administrative Director

Jack Reynolds  
Deputy Director

Jim Hutcheson  
Executive Counsel

January 25, 1993

Mr. John T. Adams  
Clerk, Supreme Court of Texas  
Price Daniel, Sr. State Office Building  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed is the original and a copy of a proposed Order of the Supreme Court approving the Administrative Rules of the Eighth Administrative Judicial Region as approved by Judge Charles J. Murray, Presiding Judge of the 8th Administrative Judicial Region on October 1, 1987, and submitted for approval by the Court by current Presiding Judge Jeff Walker on January 11, 1993.

After you have entered this proposed order on the Miscellaneous Docket of the Court, please forward the original of the proposed order to the chambers of Justice Hecht for further action by the Court.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Raymond Judice".

C. Raymond Judice  
Administrative Director

Enclosures

cc: Justice N. Hecht  
Supreme Court

Hon. Jeff Walker  
Presiding Judge, 8th Administrative Judicial Region



# *Eighth Administrative Judicial Region*

Office of Presiding Judge

1st Floor, Tarrant County Justice Center  
Fort Worth, Texas 76196

Counties

ARCHER  
CLAY  
COOKE  
DENTON  
EASTLAND  
ERATH  
HOOD  
JACK  
MONTAGUE  
PALO PINTO  
PARKER  
STEPHENS  
TARRANT  
WICHITA  
WISE  
YOUNG

January 11, 1993

JEFF WALKER  
Presiding Judge  
Telephone (817) 884-1450

QUIDA STEVENS  
Administrative Assistant

Telephone (817) 884-1558  
FAX (817) 884-1560

John T. Adams, Clerk  
Supreme Court of Texas  
P.O.Box 12248  
Austin, Texas 78711

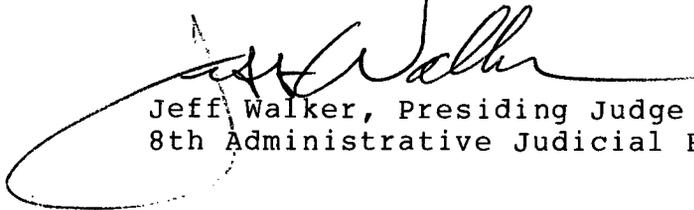
Dear Mr. Adams:

At the request of Chief Justice Phillips, enclosed you will find a copy of the Eighth Administrative Judicial Region Rules of Administration which were approved by the judges of this Region and Judge Charles J. Murray, Presiding Judge of the Eighth Administrative Region on the 1st day of October, 1987.

It would not have been like Judge Murray to have overlooked filing these with your office. Since you have not been able to locate these rules in your files, I am submitting this copy to you for filing and approval.

If there are any problems, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

  
Jeff Walker, Presiding Judge  
8th Administrative Judicial Region

JW:os