

# **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS**

Misc. Docket No. 96- 9260

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**APPROVAL OF COURT CALENDAR AND LOCAL RULES  
FOR CRIMINAL CASES  
FOR THE WALKER COUNTY COURT AT LAW  
WALKER COUNTY, TEXAS**

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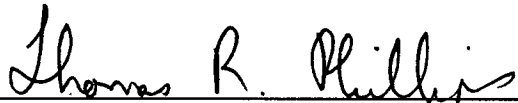
**ORDERED:**

Pursuant to Rule 3a of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, the Supreme Court of Texas approves the following local rules, which have been submitted to this Court:


Court Calendar and Local Rules for Criminal Cases for the Walker County Court at Law, Walker County, Texas

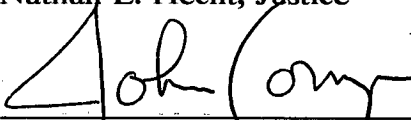
The approval of these rules is temporary, pending further orders of the Court.

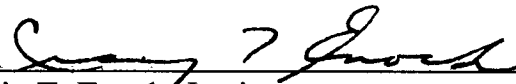
SIGNED AND ENTERED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1996

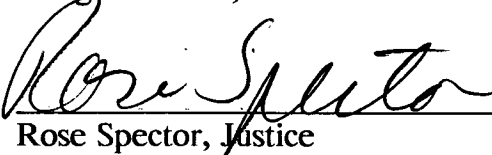
  
Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

  
Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice


  
Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

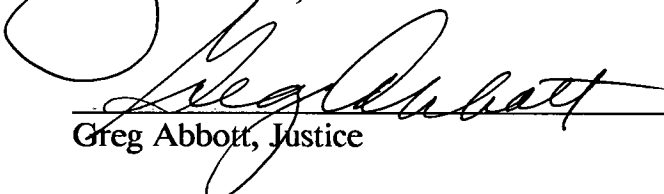
  
John Cornyn, Justice

  
Craig T. Enoch, Justice

  
Rose Spector, Justice

  
Priscilla R. Owen, Justice

  
James A. Baker, Justice

  
Greg Abbott, Justice

*JUDGE BARBARA HALE*  
*Walker County Court at Law*

*COURT CALENDAR*

*and*

*LOCAL RULES*

*(For Criminal Cases)*

*\*\* 1996 \*\**

**1996  
LOCAL RULES  
CRIMINAL CASES**

The following local rules shall govern the scheduling of criminal cases in the Walker County Court at Law:

Rule 1.        **NOTICES**

Upon release from Walker County Jail, the defendant will be given a date to appear for Arraignment from jail personnel. This is the only notice which will be given.

Defendants arrested out of county are sent notice to appear by the Court Coordinator.

Defendants appealing cases from J.P. or Municipal Court are sent notice to appear by the Court Coordinator.

Rule 2.        **ARRAIGNMENT**

This will be the first setting. The defendant and counsel must appear unless prior arrangements are made with the Court Coordinator to waive Arraignment and reset the case.

To waive Arraignment, the defendant and/or counsel must fill out and sign the Case Reset and Waiver of Arraignment form. This form is available from the Court Coordinator. The signed form must be returned to the Court Coordinator who will assign the case to the next setting, which will be a Pre-Trial setting.

A case may be reset by phone, ONLY if followed immediately by letter or fax confirming the date to which the case is reset.

Rule 3.        **PRE-TRIAL SETTINGS**

Two pre-trial or no issue settings will be allowed. Prior to the second pre-trial setting counsel should have filed any and all motions pursuant to Art. 28.02 C.C.P.

Rule 4.        **MOTIONS**

All motions will be set for a specific time for hearing. Motions will not be heard on the Arraignment or Pre-Trial docket days. Counsel should inform the Court Coordinator of the need for a Motions hearing. Failure to request a hearing and/or failure to timely file will be considered a waiver.

The District Attorney's office has an "open file" policy alleviating the need for most discovery motions. Prior to filing a discovery motion, counsel should visit with the prosecutor and only bring to the Court's attention those matters on which the parties do not agree.

Rule 5.

**TRIAL**

After an Arraignment and two Pre-Trial settings, the case will be set for Jury Trial (unless a Bench Trial is specifically requested).

**CALL DOCKET**

Generally, the call docket is 10 days prior to trial. Any motions for continuance must be in writing and presented at the call docket. Counsel not appearing at the call docket will be announced "ready" by the Court. Counsel may call the Court Coordinator prior to the call docket and announce "ready".

After the call docket, the Court will announce the order of the cases for trial. Generally 4-5 cases are randomly selected. Those cases selected are required to be present and ready for trial at the next trial setting. Counsel should NOT assume that the case(s) ahead of yours will be the case(s) tried. (See Rule 6)

All other cases are "rolled over" to the next call docket (see calendar) and will continue in this manner until reached for trial.

Rule 6.

**PLEA BARGAINS**

All cases disposed of by plea bargain agreement will be heard on docket days or on the day of trial. Disposition of a case at any other time should be arranged with the Court Coordinator after speaking with the prosecutor.

Once a case is set for a specific trial date, plea bargains will be accepted, if and only if the plea is entered prior to trial or on the day of trial. Counsel should inform the Court immediately of a decision to dispose of any case set for trial, so that jurors can be released from appearing.

Rule 7.

**MTR OR MTA**

Counsel should request a specific date for hearings on MTR or MTA. These WILL NOT be heard on regular docket days.

Rule 8.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Counsel is encouraged to dispose of these cases as quickly as is consistent with fairness. Counsel is encouraged to request enough time between settings so that counsel can be paid while at the same time continue moving the case to some type of disposition. Counsel should inform the Court Coordinator if a defendant has a felony pending so that more latitude in the period of time between settings can be given so that those cases can be handled together, when possible.

Approved by:



WILLIAM MCADAMS, JUDGE  
12th Judicial District



BARBARA HALE, JUDGE  
Walker County Court at Law  
Walker County Courthouse  
1100 University Ave., Ste. 101  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(409) 291-9500, Ext. 89

*JUDGE BARBARA HALE*  
*Walker County Court at Law*

*COURT CALENDAR*

*and*

*LOCAL RULES*

*(For Criminal Cases)*

*\*\* 1996 \*\**

**1996  
LOCAL RULES  
CRIMINAL CASES**

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Approved by:

  
WILLIAM MCADAMS, JUDGE  
12th Judicial District

  
BARBARA HALE, JUDGE  
Walker County Court at Law  
Walker County Courthouse  
1100 University Ave., Ste. 101  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(409) 291-9500, Ext. 89





**SECOND ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIAL REGION  
OF TEXAS**

**THOMAS J. STOVALL, JR.  
PRESIDING JUDGE**

**JUDY MAPLES GEIGER  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

**VIKKI NELSON  
REGIONAL DOCKET MANAGER**

**P.O. BOX 40, SEABROOK, TEX. 77586  
PHONE (713) 471-3911**

**OFFICE LOCATED: HARRIS COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE, LA PORTE ANNEX  
117 E. AVE. A, LA PORTE, TEXAS**

**December 27, 1995**

**Hon. Nathan L. Hecht, Justice  
Supreme Court of Texas  
P. O. Box 12248  
Austin, TX., 78711**

**Re: Local Rules, Walker County Court at Law**

**Dear Justice:**

**Judge Barbara Hale, Judge of the Walker County Court at Law, has submitted the enclosed Local Rules and Court Calendar (for Criminal Cases in 1996) for approval.**

**The Walker County Local Administrative Judge, Hon. William L. McAdams, has approved them, as shown in the enclosed copy of his letter. I have approved them.**

**I have separated the Court's Calendar from the Rules and do not enclose them, since they are not really a part of the Rules.**

**This will probably wrap up the year on Local Rules for us! Best wishes and have a GOOD NEW YEAR!**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Stovall, Jr.", written in a cursive style.



William L. McAdams  
12th Judicial District Judge

12th/278th Judicial District Courts

Walker County Courthouse  
1100 University Avenue  
Suite 303  
Huntsville, Texas 77340  
(409) 291-9500, Ext. 86

Jerry A. Sandel  
278th Judicial District Judge

COPY

December 15, 1995

Honorable Barbara Hale  
Judge, County Court at Law  
Walker County, Texas  
1100 University Avenue  
Suite 101  
Huntsville, Texas 77340

RE: Local Rules Pertaining to Criminal Cases Set  
in the Walker County Court at Law

Dear Judge Hale:

Please know that I have reviewed and approve the proposed local rules pertaining to criminal cases set in your court, a copy of which is attached. Thank you very much for your cooperation and attention in this regard.

You have my best wishes.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William L. McAdams".

William L. McAdams  
Local Administrative Judge

WLM:dls

cc: Honorable Thomas J. Stovall, Jr.  
Presiding Judge  
Second Administrative Judicial Region  
P.O. Box 40  
Seabrook, Texas 77586



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

EXECUTIVE ASST  
WILLIAM L. WILLIS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST  
NADINE SCHNEIDER

JUSTICES  
RAUL A. GONZALEZ  
NATHAN L. HECHT  
JOHN CORNYN  
CRAIG ENOCH  
ROSE SPECTOR  
PRISCILLA R. OWEN  
JAMES A. BAKER  
GREG ABBOTT

December 11, 1996

Hon. William L. McAdams  
12th District Court  
1100 University Ave, Ste 303  
Huntsville, Texas 77340

Dear Judge McAdams,

Please find enclosed, a copy of the order of the Supreme Court that approved local rules for the Walker County Court at Law.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED**

John T. Adams  
Clerk

Encl.

cc: Hon. Thomas J. Stovall, Jr.  
3rd Admin Judicial Rgn

Hon. Barbara Wade Hale  
Walker County Court at Law

District Clerk

County Clerk

Supreme Court Adv Committee

Mr. Jerry Benedict  
Office of Court Admin

State Law Library