

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

9014

Misc. Docket No. 94-_____

AMENDED ORDER REGARDING
MANDATORY REPORTS OF JUDICIAL
APPOINTMENTS AND FEES

ORDERED:

Section 1. Every appointment made in a civil case by a regular or assigned judge of any district court, constitutional county court, statutory county court, statutory probate court, court master or court referee of a person to a position for which any type of fee may be paid shall be made by written order.

Section 2. Every application or request for the payment of a fee by such an appointee shall be approved by the court of the judge making the appointment. This approval shall be accomplished by a separate written order.

Section 3. Orders regarding appointments made and fees paid may not be sealed or otherwise withheld from public disclosure for any reason, regardless of whether any other information in the case is protected from disclosure.

Section 4. This order does not apply to appointments where compensation is solely by government salary rather than by fee, or where the right to select the person appointed is reserved by law to a party, as with independent executors and executrixes, or to appointments of private process servers pursuant to Tex.R.Civ.P. 103.

Section 5. At the end of each month, each district and county clerk shall prepare a report of all fees approved. Such report is required in all matters where the total fee awarded exceeds \$250, but may, at the court's option, include matters involving fees of lesser amounts. The report shall indicate:

- (1) the name of each person appointed by the judge of each district court, county court, statutory county court, and statutory probate court in the county to a position for which a fee is to be paid from any source;
- (2) the name of the judge making the appointment;
- (3) the case number and style of the case in which the appointment was made;
- (4) the date the appointment was made;
- (5) the position to which the person was appointed; and
- (6) the amount of the fee approved for payment, and the source of such payment.

Section 6. The clerk shall make a copy of this report available for public inspection in the clerk's office, and shall, before the twentieth day of the month in which the report is due, transmit a copy of the report to the Supreme Court through the State Office of Court Administration in Austin.

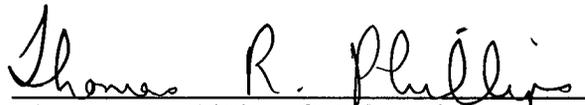
Section 7. The clerk shall retain each such report for at least two years following the date it is made available for public inspection.

Section 8. The clerk may charge the normal reasonable fee charged by the clerk for similar reproductions for reproducing the report for a person requesting such report.

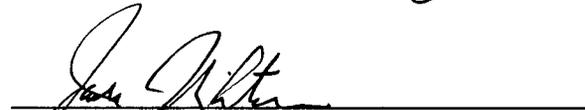
Section 9. The orders signed pursuant to Section 2 above shall be sufficiently specific to enable the clerk to prepare the report required by Section 5 above.

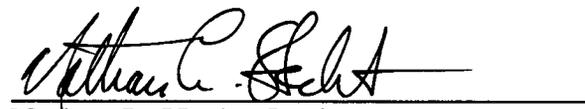
Section 10. This order is effective April 1, 1994, and applies to all appointments made or fees ordered on or after that date.

Section 11. A copy of this order shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the Supreme Court to each district and county-level judge and to each district and county clerk.

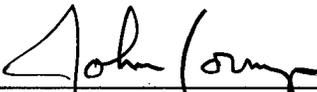

Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice


Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice


Jack Hightower, Justice


Nathan L. Hecht, Justice


Lloyd Doggett, Justice



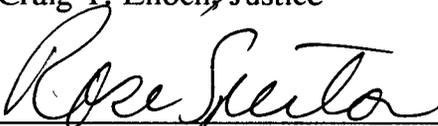
John Cornyn, Justice



Bob Gammage, Justice



Craig T. Enoch, Justice



Rose Spector, Justice

Signed this 18th day of January, 1994.