

**JUDICIAL BRANCH CERTIFICATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Third Court of Appeals, Price Daniel, Sr. Building
209 W. 14th Street, Room 101
Austin, Texas 78701
Friday, May 1, 2026
(10:00 a.m. Until Adjournment)

The meeting of the Judicial Branch Certification Commission (Commission) was called to order by Judge Sid Harle, Chair, at 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2026. Members in attendance were Judge William Sowder; Judge Victor Villarreal; Judge Glen Harrison; Judge David Jahn; Velma Arellano; Don Ford; Mark Blenden; and Ann Murray Moore.

Staff members in attendance were Ron Morgan, Commission Director; Scott Gibson, Commission General Counsel; Veena Mohan, Prosecuting Attorney; Sheryl Jones, Deputy Director; Melinda Saucedo, Compliance Manager; Kaneshia Daniels, Investigator; Tyees Holcombe, Judicial Regulatory Assistant; and Brian Keenan, Criminal History Specialist.

Complaint Review Committee members in attendance were Justiss Raspberry, Process Servers Complaint Review Committee; Kim Tindall, Court Reporters Complaint Review Committee; and Judge Polly Spencer, Guardianship Certification Complaint Review Committee.

Agenda Item III. Opening Remarks

Judge Harle welcomed everyone and announced that this would be the last meeting he would attend, as he has concluded his service on the Commission. He thanked the members and staff for the opportunity to serve and expressed his appreciation for their dedication to the Commission.

Agenda Item IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- A. Upon proper motion by Don Ford and second by Velma Arellano, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the February 6, 2026 minutes.

The Prosecuting Attorney presented agenda items V, VI and VII.

Agenda Item V. Compliance Hearings Before the Commission

- A. In the Matter of Greg Miller, Cause No. 0800

Upon motion by Judge William Sowder and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted unanimously to revoke the respondent's process server certification for 2 years, effective the date of the Final Order.

**Agenda Item VI. Commission Disciplinary Actions by Default
Process Servers Certification**

- A. In the Matter of Toyin Akinnibosun, Cause No. 0762

Upon motion by Judge William Sowder and second by Don Ford, the Commission voted unanimously to reissue the Notice of Violation once the respondent provides her correct mailing address.

- B. In the Matter of Oluwaseyi Oyebanji, Cause No. 0850
Upon motion by Ann Murray Moore and second by Mark Blenden, the Commission voted unanimously to permanently revoke the respondent's process server certification, effective the date of the Final Order, and assess a \$500 administrative penalty due no later than 6 months after the date of the Final Order.
- C. In the Matter of Opeyami Oyabanjo, Cause No. 0859
Upon motion by Ann Murray Moore and second by Mark Blenden, the Commission voted unanimously to permanently revoke the respondent's process server certification, effective the date of the Final Order, and assess a \$1,000 administrative penalty due no later than 12 months after the date of the Final Order.

Court Reporters Certification

- D. In the Matter of Kelly Kelly, Cause No. 0799
The Chairman deferred consideration of this agenda item.
- E. In the Matter of David Laurel, Cause No. 0831
Upon motion by Judge David Jahn and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted to permanently revoke the respondent's court reporter certification, effective the date of the Final Order.
Velma Arellano opposed.
Judge Victor Villarreal recused himself.

Agenda Item VII. Agreed Final Order-Acceptance by Respondent of Penalty and Sanction

Process Servers Certification

- A. In the Matter of Olumide Abdul, Cause No. 0862
Upon the motion by Mark Belnden and second by Velma Arellano, the Commission voted unanimously to permanently revoke the respondent's process server certification, effective the date of the Final Order.

Agenda Item VIII. Approval of Settlement Agreements

Guardianship Certification

- A. In the Matter of Family Eldercare, Inc., Cause No. 0844
Upon motion by Don Ford and second by Judge David Jahn, the Commission voted to reject the settlement agreement and refer the matter to the Guardianship Certification Complaint Review Committee. Judge Glen Harrison, Judge William Sowder, and Judge Victor Villarreal opposed.
- B. In the Matter of Nor-Cen-Tex Guardianship Inc., Cause No. 0962
Upon motion by Judge David Jahn and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted to adopt the settlement agreement pursuant to which the respondent will voluntarily surrender its guardianship program certification subsequent to an orderly termination of its operations, subject to the following terms:

1. Not later than 30 days after the Final Order, the respondent must provide the Commission a current, complete list of all cases in which the respondent is serving as Guardian.
2. Not later than 120 days after the date of the Final Order, the respondent must file a Written Application to Resign, pursuant to Texas Estates Code Sections 1203.001 *et seq.*, for all guardianship cases in all counties in which it is a certified guardianship program, unless prior to the 120th day a Final Report has been filed due the death of a Ward, or an Application of Successor for Appointment of Successor Guardian has been acted on by the court of competent jurisdiction. The respondent shall provide proof of all such filings to the Commission's Director.
3. Not later than 60 days after the Court has discharged the respondent of its duties in each guardianship, after it meets the requirements of Texas Estates Code Section 1203.006, the respondent shall provide proof of each court order to the Commission's Director.
4. Not later than 10 days after the court appoints a successor guardian in the respondent's final pending guardianship matter, the respondent must execute all steps required by the Commission to voluntarily surrender its guardianship program certification to the Commission, no later than March 31, 2027. The Commission acknowledges that the respondent has no control over when the respective county courts of Hood and Parker Counties, where the respondent's 9 guardianship cases are still pending, shall resolve these matters.

Don Ford and Velma Arellano opposed.

Process Servers Certification

- C. In the Matter of Angel Alfaro, Cause No. 0843
Upon motion by Velma Arellano and Judge Victor Villarreal, the Commission voted unanimously to reprimand the respondent.
- D. In the Matter of Alexis Carbone, Cause No. 0818
The Chairman deferred consideration of this agenda item.

Court Reporters Certification

- E. In the Matter of Lisa Gretarsson, Cause No. 0869
Upon motion by Velma Arellano and second by Judge Victor Villarreal, the Commission voted unanimously to reprimand the respondent and assess an administrative penalty of \$250 due no later than 6 months after the date of the Final Order.
- F. In the Matter of Amy Russell, Cause No. 0929
Upon motion by Velma Arellano and second by Victor Villarreal, the Commission voted unanimously to assess an administrative penalty of \$100 due no later than 6 months after the date of the Final Order.

Agenda Item IX. Administrative Dismissal of Complaints

Upon motion by Judge William Sowder and second by Judge Glen Harrison, the Commission voted unanimously to ratify the Commission Director's administrative dismissal of the following complaints:

Guardianship Certification

No Misconduct:

- A. In the Matter of Cause No. 0905

Process Servers Certification

No Misconduct:

- B. In the Matter of Cause No. 0812
- C. In the Matter of Cause No. 0826
- D. In the Matter of Cause No. 0845
- E. In the Matter of Cause No. 0870

Outside of Jurisdiction:

- F. In the Matter of Cause No. 0867

Court Reporters Certification

No Misconduct:

- G. In the Matter of Cause No. 0856
- H. In the Matter of Cause No. 0872

Agenda Item X. Administrative Dismissal of Complaint and Request for Reconsideration

Process Server Certification

- A. In the Matter of Cause No. 0851

Upon motion by Judge William Sowder and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted unanimously to ratify the administrative dismissal of the complaint and deny the request for reconsideration.

Agenda Item XI. Request for Reconsideration of Denial Application-Closed Session

The Commission convened in closed session at 11:19 a.m. and reconvened in open meeting at 11:39 a.m.

- A. In the Matter of O.O.
- B. In the Matter of C.G.

Following discussion, there was no motion to reverse or otherwise alter the Director's denial of the applicants' process server certification applications, thereby allowing the Commission Director's denial to remain in effect.

- C. In the Matter of B.B. (Carried forward from 2/6 agenda)

Following discussion, there was no motion to reverse or otherwise alter the Director's denial of the applicant's new guardianship certification application, thereby allowing the Commission Director's denial to remain in effect.

Agenda Item XII. Administrative Matters Relating to the Commission

- A. Amendments to Commission Process Server Rules

Upon motion by Judge Victor Villarreal and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted unanimously to refer the amended Process Server Rules to the Supreme Court of Texas for adoption.

- B. Amendment to Process Server Fees

Upon motion by Mark Blenden and second by Judge David Jahn, the Commission voted unanimously to refer the amended process server fees to the Supreme Court of Texas for adoption.

C. Amendments to *Certified Process Servers Code of Ethics*

Upon motion by Mark Blenden and second by Ann Murray Moore, the Commission voted unanimously to refer the amended *Certified Process Servers Code of Ethics* to the Supreme Court of Texas for adoption.

D. Amendments to *Process Servers Sanction Matrix*

Upon motion by Mark Blenden and second by Judge David Jahn, the Commission voted unanimously to adopt the amended *Process Servers Sanction Matrix*.

E. Update on Court Recording Study

The Commission Director stated that HB 16 directed the Office of Court Administration to conduct a study regarding digital court reporting, with the goal to provide any necessary amendments to the statutes, rules, regulations, or standards for court reporting. As stated at the last commission meeting, an agreement was signed with the Public Policy Research Institute of Texas A&M. A survey was conducted to assess the advantages and disadvantages of digital court reporting. The Commission Director stated that the Court Recording Study remains ongoing.

F. Update on Alzheimer's Training Video

The Commission Director stated the Commission was directed by HB 3376 to create a 1-hour training video to help guardians identify the symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease, dementia, and related disorders and to better support wards with those conditions. The English language version of the video has been completed and the Spanish version is in progress. Both versions will be made available on the Commission's learning management portal no later than July 1, 2026. The Commission Director recognized Alzheimer's Texas for its partnership in creating the training video and the expertise it has provided.

G. Update on OCA Supported Decision-Making Study (related to Guardianships)

The Commission Director stated that a work group for the study met to research and provide information to the Texas Judicial Council.

H. Update on Commission and Subcommittee Memberships and Related Items

The Commission Director stated that the Supreme Court of Texas will appoint a new Commission Chair and fill the vacancy on the Commission's advisory board. The Commission Director recognized Judge Harle for his many years of dedicated service as Chairman and presented him with a plaque in appreciation of his contributions to the Commission.

I. Request for Rulemaking Regarding Court Reporter Examination

Upon motion by Judge Victor Villarreal and second by Velma Arellano, the Commission voted unanimously to delegate rulemaking authority regarding court reporter examination to the Court Reporters Advisory Board.

J. Next Commission Meeting Date – Friday, August 7, 2026

Agenda Item XIII. Public Comment

There were public comments made by Steve Bresnen, Lobbyist for Texas Court Reporters Association; Erminia Uviedo, CSR; Melinda Garriga, CSR; Cristy Burnett Smith, CSR; Cindy Isaacsen, President of National Court Reporters Association; Leticia Salas, CSR; Bertha Prieto, CSR; Rene White, President of Texas Deposition Reporters Association.

Agenda Item XIV. Closing Remarks

The Commission Director thanked everyone for being present and thanked his staff. The Commission Director stated that he will ask for additional funding for investigators, who are needed to address the influx of complaints filed with the Commission, and licensing staff.

The Commission Director stated that he is continuing his outreach to the professional associations to ensure the courts are better served by the Commission's licensees.

The Commission Director thanked the Commission and recognized its hard work and decision-making.

The Chairman stated it was a privilege to serve on the Commission and thanked commission staff.

Agenda Item XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 pm.



Judge Victor Villarreal, Chair

8/7/2026

Date