



DISTRICT JUDGE'S OFFICE  
P.O. Box 700  
SINTON, TEXAS 78387-0700  
Office: (361) 364-9310  
Fax: (361) 364-9410

## STARR BOLDRICK BAUER

*District Judge 36th Judicial District*

## JOEL B. JOHNSON

*District Judge, 156th Judicial District*

## JANNA K. WHATLEY

*District Judge, 343rd Judicial District*

### COUNTIES:

ARANSAS

BEE

LIVE OAK

MCMULLEN

SAN PATRICIO

### ADOPTION PROCEDURES IN THE DISTRICT COURTS IN ARANSAS, BEE, LIVE OAK, MC MULLEN and SAN PATRICIO COUNTIES

1. You must provide an order appointing the pre-adoptive home screening and post-placement report provider. You may suggest a provider but the Judge will have the right to select their preferred provider. If the parties live outside the district, please bring that to the court's attention when you send the Order appointing provider(s). You are responsible for notifying the provider of their appointment and of all deadlines and dates. **THE COURT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING THE PROVIDER OF THE APPOINTMENT OR COURT DATE.** You and your client are responsible for payment to the provider and scheduling all meeting with the provider.

2. The criminal history must be obtained as required by Family Code Section 162.0085 and must be from the Texas Department of Public Safety (procedure found in Section 411.128 of the Government Code). If the criminal history report is not filed with the district clerk by the time the hearing is set, the case will be passed until such time as the report is filed. It will then be the duty of the attorney for the petitioner to request a reset once the report is on file.

If you need additional information, please call the court administrator.

3. You must provide an order appointing the ad litem. You may suggest an ad litem but the Judge will have the right to select the ad litem. You are responsible for notifying the ad litem of their appointment and of all deadlines and dates. **THE COURT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING THE AD LITEM OF THE APPOINTMENT, BUT WILL NOTIFY THE AD LITEM OF ANY HEARING DATES.** If you feel that an ad litem is not necessary, you must notify the court of that fact and provide a written waiver to the Judge prior to obtaining a hearing date from the court administrator.

4. Please do not forget to have your clients fill out the Adoption Vital Statistic Form prior to their leaving the courthouse.

Nina DeLaGarza, 36<sup>th</sup> District Court Administrator, (361) 364-9310

Sylvia Mejias, 156<sup>th</sup> District Court Administrator, (361) 364-9310

Elida DeLeon, 343<sup>rd</sup> Court Administrator, (361) 364-9310