



STANDING ORDER REGARDING
UNPAID AND/OR UNCOLLECTED FINES AND FEES

WHEREAS, the GOVERNMENT CODE states in SECTION 51.610 UNCOLLECTIBLE FEES.

- (a) The clerk may request the court in which a court cost or fee was imposed on a party in a civil case to make a finding that the cost or fee is uncollectible if the cost or fee has been unpaid for at least 15 years.
- (b) On a finding by a court that a court cost or fee imposed on a party in a civil case is uncollectible, the court may order the clerk to designate the cost or fee as uncollectible in the fee record. The clerk shall attach a copy of the court fee record.
- (c) This section does not apply to a court cost or fee imposed by the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, or a court of appeals.

WHEREAS, the TEXAS CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE states in ARTICLE 103.0081 UNCOLLECTIBLE FINES AND FEES.

- (a) Any officer authorized by this chapter to collect a fine, reimbursement or other fee, or item of cost may request the trial court in which a criminal action or proceeding was held to make a finding that a fine, reimbursement or other fee, or item of cost imposed in the action or proceeding is uncollectible if the officer believes:
 - (1) the defendant is deceased;
 - (2) the defendant is serving a sentence for imprisonment for life or life without parole; or
 - (3) the fine, reimbursement or other fee, or item of cost has been unpaid for at least 15 years.
- (b) On a finding by a court that any condition described by Subsection (a) is true, the court may order the officer to designate the fine, reimbursement or other fee, or item of cost as uncollectible in the fee record. The officer shall attach a copy of the court's order to the fee record.

WHEREAS, the direct costs of administering the collection of delinquent fines and fees can be substantial, including contracting collectors, locating offenders, and administering collections for the low rates of return for longtime unpaid fines and fees, and the liability incurred by the Gray County Clerk's Office for managing these longtime unpaid fines and fees, this Court respects the principles these statutes were formed under and orders dismissal of unpaid and/or uncollected fines and fees that have languished in the Gray County Clerk's Office in excess of 15 years, in accordance to statute.

THEREFORE, it is a standing order of this Court that unpaid and/or uncollected fines and fees in excess of 15 years old or older be dismissed pursuant to the above statutes.

SIGNED this the 20th day of March 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Porter".

Chris Porter
Gray County Judge



STANDING ORDER REGARDING
PRO SE PROBATE AND GUARDIANSHIP MATTERS

WHEREAS, on occasion, individuals attempt to file Family Probate and Guardianship matters without the benefit of counsel;

WHEREAS, the County Court of Gray County, Texas believes that a person should have the right to represent themselves if they chose;

WHEREAS, an Estate, Probate, or Guardianship matter is a complex and complicated matter requiring more than an ordinary knowledge of filling in a blank form for submission;

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Probate is not only to pass title to the Heirs or Devisees of a Decedent, but to assure the resolution of valid claims against the Estate;

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Guardianship is to protect the well being and property of a person of limited abilities for an undetermined period of time;

WHEREAS, the County Court of Gray County, Texas, is placed in the untenable position of making unbiased judgements, while also being expected to assume the liability for the welfare and protection of a *pro se* applicant in a Probate or Guardianship matter;

THEREFORE, it is a standing order of this Court that the Court will not hear *PRO SE* Probate matters unless there is a valid Will, the Applicant is the sole Heir under that Will, and the Will is filed as a Muniment of Title. The Court will not hear *PRO SE* Guardianship matters under any circumstances.

SIGNED this the 16th day of February 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Porter".

Chris Porter
Gray County Judge



**STANDING ORDER REGARDING
PROOF OF SERVICE FOR DEBT COLLECTION**

WHEREAS, the TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE clearly states in RULE 106 - METHOD OF SERVICE, the requirements for service of citation; and

WHEREAS, the TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE clearly states in RULE 107. RETURN OF SERVICE, the requirements for completion and recording of such citation; and

WHEREAS, as part of the legal process, proper and legal notification to a debtor while attempting the collection of debt is a substantial procedural requirement in the collection of debt;

THEREFORE, it is a standing order of this Court that a certified copy of the SERVICE OF CITATION be attached as an exhibit with all PROPOSED ORDERS FOR COLLECTION OF DEBT.

SIGNED this the 20th day of March 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Porter". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chris Porter
Gray County Judge