



Legislative Updates in Family Law:

What's Changed in the Forms You File

PRESENTED BY
FORMER HARRIS
COUNTY JUDGE
TRISTAN LONGINO



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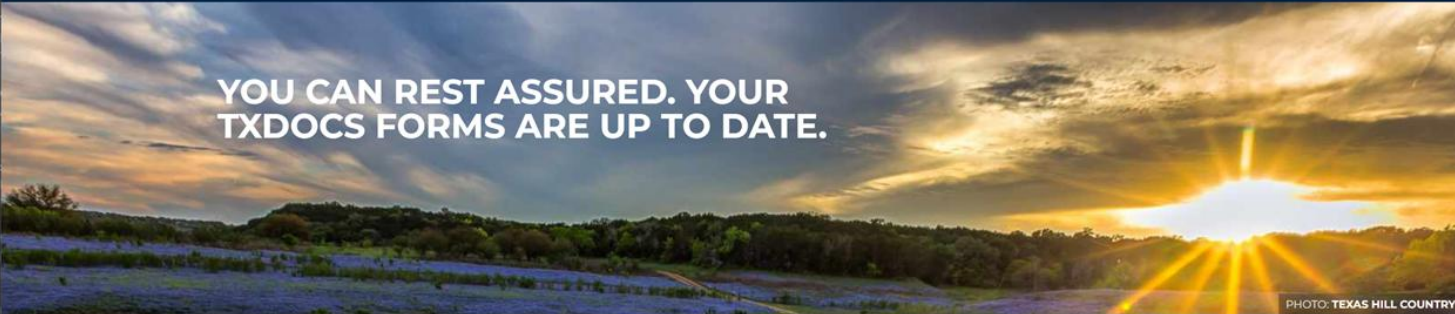


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YOU CAN REST ASSURED. YOUR TXDOCS FORMS ARE UP TO DATE.

DURING THE 89TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 30 BILLS WERE RELEASED AFFECTING TXDOCS' LEGAL FORMS.

31 NEW FORMS WERE ADDED, AND 196 FORM UPDATES WERE MADE TO ENSURE THAT YOUR TXDOCS FORMS WERE UP-TO-DATE AND READY FOR USE BY SEPTEMBER 1ST.

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SELECT A PRACTICE AREA BELOW TO VIEW THE LEGISLATIVE CHANGES AFFECTING THEM:

FAMILY LAW

+

Click on the House or Senate bill to view its latest text.

- **[HB1116 and HB1620](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Codes for Family Law termination grounds have been renumbered.
- **[HB1916](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: A court that renders a final decree of divorce or annulment retains continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to divide property.
- **[HB1973](#)**
For suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Family Law petitions involving children must include a statement that a certified copy of the birth certificate for the child has been submitted, will be submitted, or is not available. If not available, there is a request the respondent to provide it.
- **[HB2240](#)**
Effective immediately: Changes for putative spouses; new grounds for void marriage; new forms for declaring a decree void.
- **[HB2340](#)**
For disclosures made on or after Sept.1: Changes in Family Law orders for Child Custody Evaluators. More changes coming January 1.
- **[HB2350](#)**
For SAPCRs filed on or after Sept. 1: Changes in Family Law for nonparent standing expanded within the fourth degree- also included helpful PDF chart for consanguinity.
- **[HB2495](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Family Law orders for conservatorship include a new right to designate the school a child will attend and to enroll the child.
- **[HB2524](#)**
Effective Sept. 1: Updated attorney's fees language in Family Law across more than 75 forms.
- **[HB2530](#)**
For SAPCRs filed on or after Sept. 1: Changes regarding special appointments; new forms specifically for amicus attorneys.
- **[HB2596](#)**
Effective Sept. 1: Updates to OCA mandated protective orders, modified language for Motion to Vacate.
- **[HB3180](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Changes in Family Law disclosures to correct typo; TXdocs already had this fix.
- **[HB3181](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Changes in Family Law regarding enforcement of possession orders and modifications based on more than 3 findings of contempt
- **[SB1404](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: All Family Law orders with Required Party Information per 105.006 TFC must include an e-mail address for a party with protected information, with the option to withhold that information under 105.006(c-2).
- **[SB1559](#)**
For motions filed on or after Sept. 1: Changes in Family Law regarding transfers of protective orders.
- **[SB1923](#)**
For suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Modification of Child Support includes a new option for change in physical possession based on a signed authorization agreement. Provides an improved pathway for modification based on change in possession.
- **[SB2052](#)**
For pending suits as of Sept. 1 and suits filed on or after Sept. 1: Family Law orders involving a nonparent include an option for findings rebutting the parental presumption. New Affidavit or Declaration for Standing of Nonparent in Ch. 15.

Also changes in:

- Probate
- Guardianship
- Criminal Law
- Civil Litigation
- Real Estate



Effective Dates

- Majority of family law changes applied to suits pending on Sept. 1, 2025
- For the changes that apply to a suit filed on or after that date, a question is presented:

☒ This suit was filed on or after September 1, 2025

- Options presented and language in assembled documents will reflect the laws that apply
-

Protective Orders: HB2596

Applicants include victims of burglary under 7B.001(a) and (a-1) TCCP

Application for Protective Order

Reason(s) for Protective Order

- ☐ Respondent committed family violence, dating violence, or child abuse
- ☐ Respondent committed sexual assault, indecency with a child, compelling prostitution, stalking, or trafficking
- ☐ Respondent violated a Protective Order that has expired or will soon expire
- ☒ Respondent committed burglary of a habitation with intent to commit a felony, theft, or assault

Protective Orders: SB1559

Regarding transfers of protective orders, required language from 85.026(b) TFC missing from OCA but included in TXdocs forms: (must be prominently displayed)

VIII. CONFLICTING ORDERS

DURING THE TIME IN WHICH THIS ORDER IS VALID AND SUBJECT TO TRANSFER, THE ORDER PREVAILS OVER ANY OTHER ORDER RENDERED IN A SUIT FOR DISSOLUTION OF A MARRIAGE OR A SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP TO THE EXTENT OF ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ORDERS.

☒ 19.38 Motion to Transfer Protective Order

☒ 19.39 Statement Regarding Transfer of Protective Order

☒ 19.40 Order Transferring Protective Order

Birth Certificates: HB1973

Table of Contents

102.008	CONTENTS OF PETITION.	▲
102.0086	CONFIDENTIALITY OF PLEADINGS.	
102.009	SERVICE OF CITATION	
102.0091	WAIVER OF CITATION	
102.010	SERVICE OF CITATION	

state that a copy of the order will be filed with the court before any hearing.

(c-1) The petitioner shall additionally submit to the court a certified copy of the child's birth certificate if available to the petitioner. If a certified copy of the child's birth certificate is not available to the petitioner, the court at any time during the pendency of the suit may request another party to whom a certified copy of the child's birth certificate is available to submit a copy to the court. A certified copy of the child's birth certificate submitted under this subsection must be submitted for filing under seal and filed separately from any other document. If a certified copy of the child's birth certificate is not available to any party or if the copy does not name both of the child's parents, the court may request from any party at any time during the pendency of the suit alternative proof of the identity of the child's parents. The court shall seal or otherwise keep confidential any certificate or other proof submitted under this subsection, as applicable.

HB1973: Birth Certificates

Intakes ask the client if they have access to the birth certificates.



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Dashboard > Family Law Intake > Children

Family Law Intake

0 of 4 sections marked complete

Children

Charlie Child



Charlotte Child



 Insert

☒ I have access to or can obtain a certified copy of each child's birth certificate

Save

HB1973: Birth Certificates

☒ Petitioner submitting the required certified birth certificate for child(ren)

A certified copy of each child's birth certificate is filed under seal separately from this Petition.

OR

Petitioner does not have access to a certified copy of the child's birth certificate and requests that Respondent be ordered to submit it to the Court.

Required Party Information: SB1404

Previous Next Show Help QuickText Set Default Quit Help

Polly Petitioner's E-mail Address

TFC 105.006 effective Sept. 1, 2025; applies to pending suits on that date.

(c-1) Except as provided by Subsection (c-2), if a court renders an order under Subsection (c) prohibiting the disclosure of a party's information, the court shall require that the party provide to the court, for inclusion in the final order, an e-mail address at which the party may receive:

- (1) notice and service of process of subsequent motions, petitions, or other legal pleadings using the electronic filing system established under Section 72.031, Government Code; and
- (2) other legal documents or required notices.

(c-2) If the court finds that requiring a party to provide an e-mail address under Subsection (c-1) is likely to endanger the safety of the party, the court may not require the party to provide the e-mail address under that subsection.

☐ This Petitioner's e-mail address is protected ?

E-mail address

?

... Petitioner's number ?

Required Party Information: SB1404

Pursuant to Section 105.006(c-1) of the Texas Family Code, [protected party] may receive notices and service via e-mail at [e-mail provided].

OR

The Court finds, in accordance with Section 105.006(c-2) of the Texas Family Code, that requiring [protected party] to provide an e-mail is likely to endanger [his/her] safety. [protected party] is not required to provide an e-mail address for notice or service.

When a party has
protected information

EACH PERSON WHO IS A PARTY TO THIS ORDER (EXCEPTING [PARTY], WHO NEED NOT PROVIDE OR UPDATE THIS INFORMATION TO THE OTHER PARTY PURSUANT TO THE FINDINGS IN THIS ORDER) IS ORDERED TO NOTIFY EACH OTHER PARTY, THE COURT, AND THE STATE CASE REGISTRY OF ANY CHANGE IN THE PARTY'S CURRENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS, MAILING ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER, NAME OF EMPLOYER, ADDRESS OF EMPLOYMENT, DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER, AND WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER.



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Right to Designate School: HB2495

153.132 (parent)
153.371 (nonparent)

RIGHTS AND DUTIES	Each has at all times	Each has during possession	Exclusive to Primary	Exclusive to Secondary	Joint	Independent	Granted
Duty of care, control, protection, and reasonable discipline of the child		✓					
Duty to support the child, including providing the child with clothing, food, shelter, and medical and dental care not involving an invasive procedure		✓					
Right to consent for the child to medical and dental care not involving an invasive procedure		✓					
Right to direct the moral and religious training of the child		✓					
Right to designate the primary residence of the child ✓ without regard to geographic location within			✓				
Right to consent to medical, dental, and surgical treatment involving invasive procedures*					✓		
Right to consent to psychiatric and psychological treatment*					✓		
Right to receive and give receipt for periodic payments for the support of the child and hold or disburse the funds for the benefit of the child							
Right to represent the child in legal action and to make other decisions of substantial legal significance concerning the child					✓		
Right to consent to marriage and enlistment in armed services					✓		
Right to make decisions concerning the child's education*					✓		
Right to designate the school the child will attend and to enroll the child in the school, subject to any eligibility or admissions requirements					✓		
Right to services and earnings of the child, except as provided by section 264.0111 of the Texas Family Code					✓		
Except when a guardian of the child's estate or a guardian or attorney ad litem has been appointed for the child, the right to act as an agent of the child in relation to the child's estate if the child's action is required by a state, the U.S., or a foreign government					✓		
Right to apply for a passport for the child, renew the child's passport, and							

Nonparent Standing: SB2052

☐	15.15 Declaration of Identity
☒	15.17 Affidavit or Declaration for Standing of Nonparent
☐	15.18 Consanguinity Chart
☐	15.20 Petitioner's Affidavit in Support

New form 102.0031 TFC

Option presented during
assembly of SAPCR and
Modification orders

Findings Rebutting Parental Presumption Under 153.002(b) TFC

☒ Include finding for rebuttal of presumption that the parent acts in the best interest of the child 

Specific facts that support findings for nonparent and the extent to which the presumption was overcome

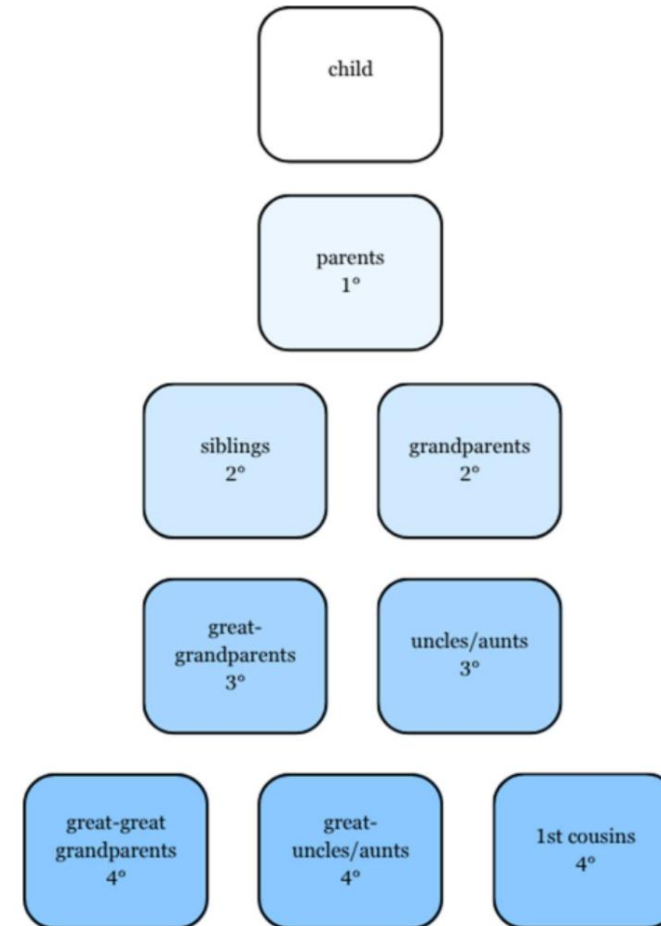
The Court's findings are based on the following specific facts: _____

Nonparent Standing: HB2350

102.004(a) In addition to the general standing to file suit provided by Section 102.003, a grandparent, or another relative of the child related within the **fourth** degree by consanguinity, may file an original suit requesting managing conservatorship...

Table of Consanguinity
Showing degrees of relationships

Pursuant to 573.023 Texas Government Code



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4th Finding of Contempt: HB3181

Grounds for Modification



Grounds for modification of conservatorship and/or possession and access

☒ Change in circumstances

☐ Conviction



Types of changes in circumstances

☐ Child's change in circumstances

☐ Conservator's change in circumstances

☐ Possession relinquished by conservator

☐ Death of a conservator

☒ Finding of contempt under 156.107 TFC



Conservatorship Modification Grounds

15. Rudy Respondent has previously been found in contempt of court at least three times for failure to comply with the terms of the Order. The Court has, again, found that Rudy Respondent is in contempt of court for the denial of court-ordered possession of or access to the child on September 24, 2025. The findings are a predicate fact which constitutes a material and substantial change in circumstances of a party or child of this suit sufficient to justify modification of the terms of conservatorship and possession of, or access to, a child in the prior order.

Modification of Child Support: SB1923

*

Grounds for modification of child support

?

☐ Material change for children

☐ Material change for affected party

☐ Three years have passed since prior order and award differs by 20% or \$100

☐ Incarcerated obligor released

☐ Current child support does not comply with guidelines

☒ Change in physical possession

☐ Incarceration of obligor for more than 180 days

Reason for change in physical possession

?

☐ Voluntary relinquishment

☐ Conservator incarcerated

☐ Possession relinquished in an official proceeding

☒ Entered into an authorization agreement

☐ Duty to support children in another household

?

Putative Spouses: HB2240

Grounds for Void Marriage

Basis for void marriage

- ☐ Cosanguinity of parties
- ☒ Marriage during existence of prior marriage
- ☐ Marriage to a minor
- ☐ Marriage between step-child and step-parent

☒ Petitioner is a putative spouse filing under Section 6.202(b)(3)

Date on which Petitioner learned of Respondent's existing marriage

October 4, 2025

Grounds to Void Marriage

8. Polly Petitioner entered into the purported marriage with Robert Respondent in good faith, but Robert Respondent had an existing marriage at that time.
9. Polly Petitioner did not know that Robert Respondent had an existing marriage until October 4, 2025, and 30 days have not lapsed since that date. Polly Petitioner has not lived with Robert Respondent as a spouse or represented herself as married to Robert Respondent since learning of the existing marriage.

☒ 42.15 Original Petition to Declare Decree of Divorce or Annulment Void

☒ 42.16 Decree Declaring Decree of Divorce or Annulment Void

E. DECLARING A DECREE VOID

9.401 LACK OF JURISDICTION.

(a) A decree of divorce or annulment is void if the court rendering the decree lacked jurisdiction at the time the decree was rendered.

(b) A putative spouse may file a suit to declare a decree of divorce or annulment void under Subsection (a).

Added by Acts 2025, 89th Leg., R.S., Ch. 735 (H.B. [2240](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 20, 2025.

Child Support Calculations

Rudy Respondent's Support Obligation

Payments

Frequency of support payments: ☒ Monthly ☐ Semi-monthly ☐ Weekly ☐ Bi-weekly Date first payment is due: November 1, 2025

Support per month: 1,268.12 [Child support calculator](#)

Day of month for each monthly payment: first

Findings Concerning Child Support Guidelines

Findings Concerning Child Support

Rudy Respondent - Obligor [Calculate net resources](#)

Net resources of obligor: 6,340.58 Net resources of obligee: 2,501.12 Children in other households: 0

Percentage applied to obligor's resources: 20 % [Please update the percentage applied if variance](#)

[...reasons that the amount of child support...ordered...varies from the...percentage guidelines are:...](#)

Other Changes in Family Law

- Reasonable and necessary attorney's fees, costs, and expenses HB2524
 - Renumbered statutes for grounds for termination HB116
 - Jurisdiction for post decree division of property HB2495
 - Information for criminal history record SB2587
 - Child custody evaluations HB2340
 - Amicus appointments HB2530
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Q & A

- Questions? Please submit them using the questions box of the GoToWebinar side panel.
 - TXdocs submits attorneys' attendance to the Bar.
 - GoToWebinar sends an email to prove your attendance.
 - You will receive another email with a link to this webinar's recording.
 - A short survey will appear at the end of the webinar.
 - Thank you for attending. As always, let us know how we can serve you better!
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