NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL IN CRIMINAL CASES FROM A MUNICIPAL COURT OF RECORD

Rights and Procedures for Defendants

The purpose of this pamphlet is to provide you with information about appealing a conviction from the municipal court to an appellate court. If you have questions about your legal rights or whether you should appeal, please consult with a licensed attorney of your choice.

Right to Appeal

You have the right to appeal a conviction in municipal court. This right applies if you are convicted at trial or convicted after pleading guilty or no contest.

The State (represented by the city attorney or deputy city attorney) has the right to appeal:

Appeal Requirements

Before you can appeal, the municipal court must enter a final judgment of guilty against you and impose a penalty (fine and costs).

To appeal the final judgment of guilty, you are required to:

File a written motion for <u>new trial</u> with the municipal clerk not later than the 10th day after the date on which judgment was rendered.
If the motion is denied, submit a <u>notice of appeal</u> no later than the 10 th day after motion was overruled
File an appeal bond with the court
Pay \$25 clerk's filing fee
Post a bond double the amount of the total balance owed, or post a surety bond
Hire a court reporter to transcribe the proceedings and communicate his/her name to the court. A list of court reporters in Corpus Christi is included. You may find a complete list at http://www.txcourts.gov/jbcc/court-reporters-certification/list-of-csrs-crfs.aspx
Pay the court reporter for the transcription of the proceedings
Submit the original transcript to the municipal court to be included with the clerk's record

The following pages are for your information on appeals and are not intended to provide any legal advice. These were obtained from the Texas Constitution and Statutes website at http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/. Also included in this packet is a list of certified court reporters in Corpus Christi for your convenience. Should you have any questions on this information or these statutes, please consult with a licensed attorney.

eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00016 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999. Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 37 (S.B. 1014), Sec. 3, eff. May 9, 2005.

Sec. 30.00018. BILLS OF EXCEPTION. Bills of exception must substantially conform to the provisions relating to the preparation of bills of exception in the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure and the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Added by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 811, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987. Renumbered from Government Code Sec. 30.497 by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 8.02, eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00017 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

Sec. 30.00019. REPORTER'S RECORD. (a) A reporter's record included in the record on appeal must substantially conform to the provisions relating to the preparation of a reporter's record in the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure and the Code of Criminal Procedure.

(b) The appellant shall pay for the reporter's record.

Added by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 811, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987. Renumbered from Government Code Sec. 30.498 by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 8.02, eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00018 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 37 (S.B. 1014), Sec. 4, eff. May 9, 2005.

- Sec. 30.00020. TRANSFER OF RECORD. (a) Not later than the 60th day after the date on which the notice of appeal is given or filed, the parties must file with the municipal clerk:
- (1) the reporter's record;(2) a written description of material to be included in the clerk's record in addition to the required material; and
- (3) any material to be included in the clerk's record that is not in the custody of the clerk.
- (b) On completion of the record, the municipal judge shall approve the record in the manner provided for record completion, approval, and notification in the court of appeals.
- (c) After the court approves the record, the clerk shall promptly send the record to the appellate court clerk for filing. The appellate court clerk shall notify the defendant and the prosecuting attorney that the record has been filed.

Added by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 811, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987. Renumbered from Government Code Sec. 30.499 by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 8.02, eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00019 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999. Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 37 (S.B. 1014), Sec. 5, eff. May 9, 2005.

Sec. 30.00021. BRIEF ON APPEAL. (a) An appellant's brief on appeal from a municipal court of record must present points of error in the manner required by law for a brief on appeal to the court of appeals.

- (b) The appellant must file the brief with the appellate court clerk not later than the 15th day after the date on which the clerk's record and reporter's record are filed with that clerk. The appellant or the appellant's attorney must certify that the brief has been properly mailed to the appellee.
- (c) The appellee must file the appellee's brief with the appellate court clerk not later than the 15th day after the date on which the appellant's brief is filed.
- (d) Each party, on filing the party's brief with the appellate court clerk, shall deliver a copy of the brief to the opposing party and to the municipal judge.
- (e) The record and the briefs on appeal shall be limited as far as possible to the questions relied on for reversal.

Added by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 811, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987. Renumbered from Government Code Sec. 30.500 by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 8.02, eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00020 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999. Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 37 (S.B. 1014), Sec. 6, eff. May 9, 2005.

Sec. 30.00022. NEW TRIAL. The trial court shall decide from the briefs of the parties whether the appellant should be permitted to withdraw the notice of appeal and be granted a new trial by the court. The court may grant a new trial at any time before the record is filed with the appellate court.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

Sec. 30.00023. COURT RULES. (a) Except as modified by this subchapter, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure govern the trial of cases before the municipal courts of record. The courts may make and enforce all rules of practice and procedure necessary to expedite the trial of cases before the courts that are not inconsistent with law.

(b) The appellate courts may make and enforce all rules of practice and procedure that are not inconsistent with law and that are necessary to expedite the dispatch of appeals from the municipal courts of record.

Added by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 811, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987. Renumbered from Government Code Sec. 30.501 by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 165, Sec. 8.02, eff. Sept. 1, 1997. Renumbered from Sec. 30.00021 and amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 691, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

Sec. 30.00024. DISPOSITION ON APPEAL. (a) According to the law and the nature of the case, the appellate court may:

(1) affirm the judgment of the municipal court of record;

(2) reverse and remand for a new trial;

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