IN RE:

IN THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COURTS AT LAW

FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS

## STANDING ORDER OF THE FORT BEND COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS AND COUNTY COURTS ESTABLISHING PROCESSESS FOR UNFILED MISDEMEANOR CRIMINAL MATTERS

ON THIS DATE, came on to be considered by the Local Administrative Judge of Fort Bend County, Texas, in her administrative authority and the presiding Judges of the District and County Courts of Fort Bend County, Texas. The purpose of this Standing Order is to provide for the most efficient method of addressing and disposing of current and anticipated case types, arrest, subsequent unfiled case disposition and filing processes with the court of jurisdiction. This Standing Order relates to all "unfiled" criminal matters initiated subsequent to arrest or "on-view" arrest as provided under Chapters 14, 15 or 16 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, but prior to the filing of a formal complaint or information by the Fort Bend County District Attorney in a County Court of Fort Bend County, Texas.

## THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED, ON AND AFTER APRIL 19, 2023:

Designated Fort Bend County Judges, Associate Judges or Visiting Judges shall preside over Magistrate Dockets (weekdays and weekends). After magistration and before the filing of a misdemeanor criminal complaint by the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office, jurisdiction over "unfiled" criminal matters shall remain with the original Magistrate Judge serving in Fort Bend County, Texas. If, however, the original Magistrate Judge was a Visiting Judge or is otherwise unavailable, the "unfiled" criminal Misdemeanor matter may be heard by the designated County Court Magistrate Judge or Associate Judge, acting under the authority of the County Courts of Fort Bend County, Texas. In the event the County Court Magistrate Judge or Associate Judge is unavailable, the "unfiled" matter may be heard by any District Court Magistrate Judge or Associate Judge working under the authority of the District Courts of Fort Bend County, Texas.

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In the event the criminal matter remains "unfiled" on first court appearance, the rescheduling of the case shall be left to the discretion of the presiding judge of the assigned County Court of Fort Bend County, Texas.

## Effect of General Order:

The effect of this Order shall, by agreement, grant Magistrates (and Associate Judges) who are working under the authority of the County Courts and District Courts of Fort Bend County, Texas the authority to hear "unfiled" criminal matters. This Order is not a limitation on the authority of elected or appointed presiding Judges to hear "unfiled" matters that fall within their discretion.

This **ORDER** was approved by majority vote of the Council of Judges on April 19, 2023 and entered by the elected Judges of the District and County Court Judges for Fort Bend County, Texas and they do hereby indicate their acknowledgement of the entry of this Standing General Order by their signatures below.

Tameika Carter, Presiding Judge

400th Judicial District Court

Local Administrative District Judge

## **COUNCIL OF JUDGES**

DISTRICT COURTS (Hearing Criminal Matters)	
Lundrum gattel	Alexe Pinger
Surendran Pattel, Presiding Judge	Steve Rogers, Presiding Judge
240 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court	268th Judicial District Court
Tameika Carter, Presiding Judge 400th Judicial District Court Local Administrative District Judge Chad Bridges, Presiding Judge 458th Judicial District Court	Christian Becerra, Presiding Judg 434 Judicial District Court Jury Management Judge
COUNTY COURTS-AT-LAW	
	DANOEL
Christopher G. Morales	Tyra McCollum
County Court at Law No. 1	County Court at Law No. 2
and a Mato	77.18D
Juli Mathew	Toni Wallace
County Court at Law No. 3	County Court at Law No. 4
Teana Watson	Dean Hrbacek
County Court at Law No. 5	County Court at Law No. 6
Local Administrative County Court at Law Judge	