

JOHN D. KINARD
GALVESTON COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK



CIVIL AND FAMILY CASES
FILING AND SERVICE FEES

GALVESTON COUNTY
DISTRICT CLERK

600 59th Street, Room 4001
Galveston, Texas 77551-2388

Effective January 1, 2026

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**SECTION I
CIVIL FEES**

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (NEW CIVIL SUIT)

Civil Initial Base Filing Fees (Set Amounts)

State Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$137.00
Local Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$213.00
Total Filing Fees New Suit (NO SERVICE)	\$350.00

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (OTHER CIVIL SUITS – NON-FAMILY)

Application for Garnishment	\$350.00
Bill of Review	\$350.00
Condemnation Proceedings (Eminent Domain Suit)	\$350.00
Delinquent Tax Suits	\$350.00
Deposition Before Suit or to Investigate Claim Petition (202.2 TRC)	\$350.00
Expunction Suit	\$350.00
Foreign Judgment	\$350.00
Fraudulent Lien Suit	\$350.00
Judgment NISI	\$350.00
Name Change	\$350.00
Occupational License	\$350.00
Petition for Non-Disclosure	\$350.00
Transfer of Suit from Other County (Registration of Foreign Judgment)	\$350.00

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (ACTION WITHIN EXISTING CIVIL SUIT)

Other Pleadings Required Filing Fee (The following fees include a State Consolidated Court Cost of \$45 ((133.151) Gov't Code) and a Local Consolidated Court Cost of \$35 ((135.101) Gov't Code)

Contempt Action (51.317(b)(2) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Cross-action/Counterclaim/Interpleader (51.317(b)(2) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Intervention (51.317(b)(2) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Motion for New Trial (51.317(b)(2) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Third Party Action (51.317(b)(2) Gov't Code)	\$80.00

FEES DUES AS SERVICE IS REQUESTED (CIVIL CASES)

Issuance Fees

Abstracting a Judgment (51.318(b)(5) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Certification for Change of Name (45.106 Family Code)	\$10.00
Certified or Registered Mail Service (51.319(2) Gov't Code) (Does not include issuance of citation)	\$85.00
Citation (51.317)(B) and (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Citation for Each Additional Defendant Served by and through the Commissioner of Insurance, Secretary of State, or Texas Highway Commission	\$12.00
Expunction of Records Notice \$25 per listed official, agency, or entity no eligible for electronic transmission. (Art. 55A.254(f), C.C.P.)	\$25.00
Judgment NISI	\$12.00
Notice/Certified	\$8.00
Notice of Judicial Writ of Withholding	\$10.00
Order of Sale (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Precept	\$8.00
Show Cause Notice	\$8.00
Bill of Cost (51.319(3) Gov't Code)	\$10.00
Subpoena (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Temporary Injunction (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Temporary Restraining Order (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Service by Certified Mail*	\$85.00

The service by certified mail fee DOES NOT include the \$8.00 issuance fee

FEES DUES AS SERVICE IS PERFORMED

(Continued)

Writ of Attachment (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Execution (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Garnishment (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Injunction (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Possession (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Sequestration (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Writ of Turnover (51.318)(b) Gov't Code	\$8.00
Other Writs not listed (51.318 (b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00

**SECTION II
FAMILY FEES**

**CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE
(ANNULMENT OR SUIT TO DECLARE MARRIAGE VOID) (Not Involving Children)**

Family Initial Base Filing Fees (Set Amounts)

State Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$137.00
Local Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$213.00
Total Filing Fees New Suit (NO SERVICE)		\$350.00

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (DIVORCE INVOLVING CHILDREN AND WITHOUT CHILDREN)

Family Initial Base Filing Fees (Set Amounts)

State Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$137.00
Local Consolidated Court Costs ((133.151) Gov't Code)	\$213.00
Total Filing Fees New Suit (NO SERVICE)		\$350.00

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (OTHER FAMILY MATTERS)

Adoption Cases

Adoption – Adult	\$350.00
Adoption Minor	\$350.00
Termination & Adoption	\$350.00

Other Family Matters

Application for Writ of Garnishment (After Judgment)	\$350.00
Applications for Writ of Habeas Corpus (New Family Case)	\$350.00
Bill of Review	\$350.00
Declaratory Judgment	\$350.00
Emancipation of Minor/Name Change/Other Family Code Title 2 Suits	\$350.00
Foreign Judgment	\$350.00
Grandparent Access	\$350.00
Paternity	\$350.00
Petition for Qualified Domestic Relationships Order (QDRO)	\$350.00
Protective Order Application	\$350.00
Removal of Disabilities of a Minor	\$350.00
Severed Cause Action	\$350.00
Suit Affecting Parent-Child Relationship (SAPCR)	\$350.00
Suit to Enforce Divorce Decree	\$350.00
Termination of Parent Child-Relationship	\$350.00
Transfer of Suit from Other County - Not SAPCR	\$350.00
Transfer of Suit from Other County – SAPCR	\$80.00
UIFSA Suit (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act)	\$350.00

CLERK'S BASIC FILING FEE (ACTION WITHIN EXISTING FAMILY SUIT)

Other Pleadings Required Filing Fee (The following fees include a State Consolidated Court Cost of \$45 ((133.151) Gov't Code) and a Local Consolidated Court Cost of \$35 ((135.101) Gov't Code)

Counter-Petition (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Intervention (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Issuing and Delivering Withholding Order of Writ (110.004 Family Code)	\$15.00
Motion for Clarification (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Motion for Contempt (SAPCR) (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Motion for Contempt (Not – SAPCR) (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Motion for Enforcement (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Motion for New Trial (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00
Motion for to Revoke a Stay of License Suspension (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Notice of Application for Judicial Writ of Withholding (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Petition for License Suspension (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Suit or Motion for Modification (110.002 Family Code)	\$80.00
Third Party Action (51.317(b) Gov't Code)	\$80.00

FEES DUES AS SERVICE IS PERFORMED (FAMILY CASES)

Issuance Fees

Abstracting a Judgment ((51.318(b)(5) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Citation (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Precept (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Other Writ Process (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Subpoena (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Temporary Restraining Order (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Writ of Attachment (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Wit of Injunction (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Writ of Garnishment (51.318)(b) Gov't Code)	\$8.00
Service by Certified Mail*	\$85.00

The service by certified mail fee DOES NOT include the \$8.00 issuance fee

SECTION III
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS FEES

ADDITIONAL FEES – MISCELLANEOUS

Copies

Certificate Issuance-Certificate and Seal for certified copies (paper and electronic)	\$5.00
Copies-Paper or converted from paper to be delivered electronically	\$1.00 per page
Copies-Electronic (minimum \$1 up to 10 pages, then for each page or part of a page)	\$0.10 per page
Exemplified Copies	
(Plus \$5.00 for Exemplification Certificate)	
Service Copies**	\$0.25 per page

Fax Filing

Incoming Fax	\$1.50 per page plus Statutory Filing Fee when applicable
Outgoing Fax (No Charge for Local)	\$1.50 per page faxed
Plus Long Distance Fee	\$5.00

** Special Notes: Electronic Citations and other service documents are not subject to “service copy” costs.
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On this, the 18th day of August, 2025, the Commissioners' Court of Galveston County, Texas, convened in a specially scheduled meeting with the following members thereof present:

Mark Henry, County Judge
Darrell A. Apffel, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Joe Giusti, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Hank Dugie, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Robin Armstrong, MD, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; and
Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk

when the following proceedings, among others, were had, to-wit:

**An Order Setting Civil Citation Fees to be Charged by the
Galveston County Sheriff and Constables for Calendar Year 2026**

Whereas, §118.131 of the Local Government Code authorizes the Commissioners' Court of each county to set reasonable fees to be charged for services by the offices of Sheriffs and Constables; and

Whereas, upon analysis of the projected costs of serving judicial civil process for the upcoming calendar year, a determination has been made as to the level of fees required to recoup the costs to Galveston County for this service; and

Whereas, the Commissioners' Court is of the opinion that the following fees are reasonable and should be established effective January 1, 2026, for this service of civil process in Galveston; and

Whereas, for each person, corporation, or other legal entity upon whom service of citation, precepts, subpoena, summons, or process not otherwise provided for, if performed or attempted and return made, including mileage, if any, the Sheriff and Constables shall receive a fee of the following:

GALVESTON COUNTY FEES

Subpoenas	\$ 85.00
Summons	\$ 85.00
Writ of Attachment	\$ 160.00
Writ of Garnishment	\$ 150.00
Writ of Sequestration	\$ 200.00
Orders of Sale	\$ 175.00
Writ of Possession	\$ 225.00
Unauthorized Occupant Removal Property Code 24B.003/SB 1333	\$ 225.00

Forcible Detainer	\$ 110.00
Small Claims Citation	\$ 85.00
Justice Court Citation	\$ 85.00
All Other Courts' Citations Citation	\$ 85.00
Deposition Subpoena	\$ 75.00
Posting	\$ 75.00
Publication	\$ 85.00
Notice	\$ 75.00
Execution	\$ 150.00
Delivery Bond	\$ 75.00
Replevy Bond	\$ 75.00
Restitution	\$ 150.00
Precept	\$ 80.00
Show Cause	\$ 75.00
Injunction	\$100.00
Restraining Order	\$100.00
Summons & Complaint	\$ 75.00
Commitment	\$ 85.00
Trustee Sale	\$ 85.00
Certiorari	\$120.00
Habeas Corpus	\$125.00
Scire Facias	\$125.00
Distress Warrant	\$150.00
Any Other Non-Writ	\$ 75.00
Any Other Writ	\$ 150.00
Tax Suits (Galveston County)	\$ 75.00
Tax Suits (out of county)	\$ 100.00
Execution: Order of Sale; other Sheriff or Constable Sales-Excludes Tax Foreclosure Order of Sale	\$175.00 plus \$40.00 per deputy per hour for Executions exceeding 4 hours plus additional commission/fees^(1, 2, 3)

¹ Commission due based on percent of monies collected after sale and/or levy: 10% up to and including \$20,000.00 & 4% of amounts over \$20,000.00. Exception Tax Foreclosure Order of Sale commission, calculated on the judgment due.

² Commission due based on percent of monies collected if settlement reached before sale and/or levy due to work conducted by county officials: 4% up to and including \$20,000.00 & 2% of amounts over \$20,000.00. Excludes Tax Foreclosure Order of Sale.

³ Cancellation Fee \$500.00 – Writ of Execution & Order of Sale (Excludes Tax Writs & Tax Foreclosure Order of Sale) with Judgment creditors direction to withhold or release levy, withhold collection, cancel, or recall without collection of judgment and cost shall include all costs incurred and cancellation fee.

Be It Further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the fees as prescribed above are hereby established by this Commissioners' Court effective January 1, 2026, and that they shall remain in effect until further order of this Court.

Be it Further Ordered that beginning no later than October 1st and continuing for 30 days thereafter, a notice setting out the fees shall be posted both at the Courthouse door and at a public place in each County Commissioner's Precinct.

Be it Further Ordered that a notice setting out the fees shall be posted in the offices of the District and County Clerks, the Sheriff, the various Constables, and the various Justices of the Peace and any other County Officials who are authorized to charge the fees.

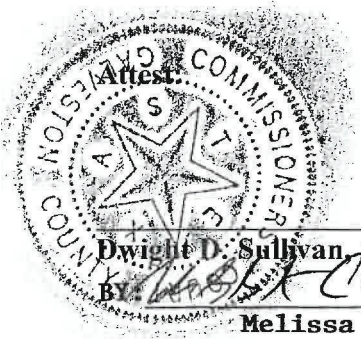
Be it Further Ordered that the County Clerk is to furnish a certified copy of this Order to the Comptroller of Public Accounts before October 15th of this year.

It is Further Ordered that the District and County Clerks, the Justices of the Peace, the Sheriff, the Constables, and any other affected official or department make appropriate revisions of their fee schedules and deposit requirements to incorporate therein the above fee prescribed by this Court.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded, the above Order was passed this 18th day of August, 2025.

County of Galveston, Texas

By: 
Mark A. Henry, County Judge



Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk

By: 
Melissa A. Childs Deputy