

DISTRICT JUDGE'S OFFICE P.O. Box 700 SINTON, TEXAS 78387-0700 Office: (361) 364-9310 Fax: (361) 364-9410

## STARR BOLDRICK BAUER

District Judge 36th Judicial District

## PATRICK L. FLANIGAN

District Judge, 156th Judicial District

## JANNA K. WHATLEY

District Judge, 343rd Judicial District

COUNTIES:
ARANSAS
BEE
LIVE OAK
MCMULLEN
SAN PATRICIO

Pro-se Divorce Procedures in the District Courts of Aransas, Bee, Live Oak, McMullen and San Patricio Counties 36<sup>th</sup>, 156<sup>th</sup> & 343<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Courts

The PETITIONER (the party who filed the Divorce) must do the following:

1. Either: Serve the Respondent (the non-filing party) as stated in the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure; or,

**File** a Waiver of Citation that is dated and signed <u>after</u> the date the Petition for Divorce is filed. If the Waiver is signed the same day the Divorce Petition is filed the Waiver must be executed AFTER the petition has been filed and must have a different time stamped by the District Clerk's office.

- 2. Before requesting a court setting the Pro Se Petitioner MUST:
  - A. Have attended the family counseling program, if children are involved and so MUST their spouse (certain exceptions exist for out of area spouses);
  - B. Know the divorce case number and filing date
  - C. Know the date of service or the date the Waiver of Citation was filed or whether the Respondent filed an Answer or has an attorney;
  - D. Know the Attorney General case number (if there is one) and have it referenced in the Decree;
  - E. Have a <u>Divorce Decree</u> with all blanks filled in and a vital statistics form (obtained from the clerk) placed in their Divorce file in the Clerk's office.

When all of the above requirements have been completed, the Pro Se Petitioner may call the Court Administrator of the court that the divorce was filed in at the number listed below to request a court date.

If the Respondent was not served, there is no waiver of service or no answer by the Respondent or a Decree of Divorce in the clerk's file then a court date will not be set. All blanks must be filled out in the Divorce Decree prior to seeing the Judge.

The Pro Se Petitioner must keep the District Clerk's office notified of their current address. If the Clerk's file does not have a correct address the case may be dismissed and the filing fees will be lost and a new case would then need to be filed with new filing fees.

Nina DeLaGarza, 36<sup>th</sup> District Court Administrator, (361)364-9310 Sylvia Mejias, 156<sup>th</sup> District Court Administrator, (361)364-9310 Elida DeLeon, 343<sup>rd</sup> District Court Administrator, (361) 364-9310