



# JEFFERSON COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

**Roxanne Acosta-Hellberg, County Clerk**

Trudy Grinnell, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
Haylee Fournier, Administrative Operations Manager  
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1085 Pearl Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Beaumont, TX 77701 409-835-8475

<https://co.jefferson.tx.us/cclerk/>

## Seventy-two Hour Waiver Information

The Law per Section 2.204 of the Texas Family Code, requires a marriage ceremony may not take place during the 72- hour period immediately following the issuance of the marriage license unless:

- 1) An applicant is a member of the armed forces of the United States and is on active duty; or
- 2) An applicant is not a member of the armed forces of the United States but performs work for the United States Department of Defense as a department employee or under a contract with the department; or
- 3) obtains a written waiver under Subsection (c)
- 4) Completes a premarital education course described by Section 2.013, and who provides to the County clerk a premarital education course completion certificate indicating completion of the premarital education course not more than one year before the date the marriage license application is filed with the clerk.

(c) An applicant may request a judge of a court with jurisdiction in family law cases, a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a county judge, a judge of a court of appeals, an associate judge appointed under Chapter 201, an associate judge appointed under Chapter 54A, Government Code, or a justice of the peace for a written waiver permitting the marriage ceremony to take place during the 72-hour period immediately following the issuance of the marriage license. If the judge, associate judge, or justice finds that there is good cause for the marriage to take place during the period, the judge, associate judge, or justice shall sign the waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a judge, associate judge, or justice under this section has the authority to sign a waiver under this section.

To obtain a written waiver, YOU MUST do the following:

- 1 Apply for your Marriage License from the County Clerk's Office. ***\*\*Tell the Clerk if you need a Waiver\*\****
- 2 Contact a Judge and request for a **written waiver** permitting the marriage ceremony to take place during the 72-hour period
- 3 Once you have contacted a judge to hear your Written Waiver, the Judge will sign an Order if good cause for the marriage to take place during the period is shown; the *Order* will be a sticker attached to the Marriage License
- 4 Have your ceremony, The person performing the ceremony shall return the Marriage License and the attached "*Order*" to the issuing County Clerk as provided in Section 2.206 of the Texas Family Code.

### The following is a list of the Jefferson County Judges who may sign your **Written Waiver of the 72- Hour Waiting Period**

|                             |                                        |     |          |                                               |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Judge Randy Shelton         | 279 <sup>th</sup> Civil District Court | 409 | 835-8655 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor of Historic Courthouse  |
| Judge Gordon Friesz         | 317 <sup>th</sup> Civil District Court | 409 | 835-8588 | 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor of Historic Courthouse  |
| Judge Justin Sanderson      | 60 <sup>th</sup> Civil District Court  | 409 | 835-8472 | 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor of Historic Courthouse  |
| Judge Baylor Wortham        | 136 <sup>th</sup> Civil District Court | 409 | 835-8481 | 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor of New Courthouse       |
| Judge Naomi Doyle           | Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, Pl. 1    | 409 | 835-8522 | 1085 Pearl St. Rm. 105 (Courthouse Front)     |
| Judge Benjamin Collins, Sr. | Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, Pl. 2    | 409 | 835-8457 | 1085 Pearl St. Rm. 104 (Courthouse Front)     |
| Judge "Duce" Jones          | Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6       | 409 | 839-2333 | 1225 Pearl Street, Suite 118                  |
| Judge Joseph L. Guillory II | Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2       | 409 | 983-8325 | 525 Lakeshore Drive, Port Arthur, Texas 77640 |