

# Abandoned Property Research Guide

## Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on abandoned personal property. See Adverse Possession guide for issues related to lost or abandoned real property. Personal property is “any movable or intangible thing that is subject to ownership and not classified as real property.” (*Black’s Law Dictionary, 11<sup>th</sup> ed.*) The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

## Statutes and Codes

Texas Statutes Online [www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov)

Property Code

- Ch. 72 Abandonment of Personal Property <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PR/htm/PR.72.htm>

**Vernon’s Texas Codes Annotated KFT 1230.5**

- Property Code Vol. 6, Ch. 72 Abandoned Property

**Texas Criminal Codes Plus KFT 1761.A29 O26**

- Code of Criminal Procedure §18.17 Disposition of Abandoned or Unclaimed Property (seized property)
- Code of Criminal Procedure §47.06 Property Sold (stolen property)

## Secondary Resources in Print

**West’s Texas Digest 2d KFT 1257.W48**

- Vol. 1, Ch. 1 Abandoned Property

**Texas Jur KFT 1265.T48**

- Vol 1, Ch. 1 Abandoned Property

**Texas Litigation Guide KFT 1730.T4**

- Vol. 18, Ch. 282 Landlord Tenant
- Vol. 24, Ch. 411 Court Approval for Abandonment of Property by Guardian

**Texas Torts and Remedies KFT 1395.T49**

- Vol. 1, Ch. 23 Landlord and Tenant: Abandonment of premises

**Texas Real Estate Forms Manual KFT 1326.T4**

- Ch. 2 Abandonment of Property by a Tenant

**Texas Transaction Guide KFT 1268.K45**

- Vol. 22, Ch. 90A Storage of Personal Property §90A.140 Personal property stored in storage facility

**American Jurisprudence Pleadings and Practice KF 8836.A45**

- Vol. 1 Part 1, Abandoned Property

## Online Resources

**Abandoned Property Research Guide (TSLL)**

<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/abandoned-property>

**Handling a Tenant’s Abandoned Property in Texas (NOLO)**

<https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/handling-tenants-abandoned-property-texas.html>

**Are You an Unclaimed Property Holder? (Texas Comptroller)**

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/unclaimed/>

**Personal Property in an Eviction: What Happens to Your Things? (TexasLawHelp)**

<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/personal-property-in-an-eviction-what-happens-to-your-things>

**Abandoned Property (Cornell Law School)**

[https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/abandoned\\_property](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/abandoned_property)

## Legal Assistance

**Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)**

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up  
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up  
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline>

**Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: 817-336-4101 (\$20 for the first 30 minutes)**

