

Assumed Name/DBA Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on Assumed Names and DBA. An Assumed Name is an alias, or “the name under which a business operates or by which it is commonly known.” In many states, Texas included, require “an individual or business operating under an assumed name to file an assumed-name certificate, usually in the secretary of state’s office or the county clerk’s office where the principal place of business is located.” DBA stands for “doing business as” and “the abbreviation usually precedes a person’s or business’s assumed name.” (*Black’s Law Dictionary, 11th ed.*) The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information 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

Texas Business & Commerce Code

- Ch. 71 Assumed Business or Professional Name
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/BC/htm/BC.71.htm>

Texas Administrative Code

- Ch. 79 Business Entity Filings, Subchapter C Entity Names
[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=1&pt=4&ch=79&sch=C&rl=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=1&pt=4&ch=79&sch=C&rl=Y)

Secondary Resources in Print

O’Connor’s Texas Business & Commerce Code Plus REF KFT 1352.A29

- Ch. 71 Assumed Business or Professional Name

Texas Business Organizations Manual REF KFT 1413.T493

- Form 3-3 Assumed Name Certificate (SOS Form 503)
- Form 4-9 Abandonment of Assumed Name Certificate (SOS Form 504)

Texas Limited Liabilities Companies Under the Business Organizations Code Forms and Practice Manual REF KFT 1407.5 A65B6

- § 2.3.5 Assumed Names

McDonald & Carlson Texas Civil Practice REF KFT 1730 .M3

- Vol. 1, § 5:6 Assumed name
- Vol. 2, § 9:36 Assumed or trade name

Texas Transaction Guide REF KFT 1268 .K45

- Vol. 1, §1.31[2] Registering an Assumed Business or Professional Name

CLE Materials

Advanced Business Law KFT 1405 .A75S7

- 2021 Ch. 1 Legislative Update: What Just Happened in Austin?
 - Section K. Amendments to TBCC

Essentials of Business Law KFT 1405 .A7S7

- 2020 Ch. 7 Series Limited Liability Companies: Formation, Operation, and Practical Considerations - Section XI-C Assumed Name Certificate

Online Resources

Assumed Names (Tarrant County Clerk's Office)

<https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/county-clerk/vital-records/assumed-names.html>

Certified Copy of Assumed Name

Application/Certificate (Tarrant County Clerk's Office) <https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/county-clerk/vital-records/assumed-names/certified-copy-of-assumed-name-application-certificate.html>

Name Filings FAQ (Texas Secretary of State)

<https://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/namefilingsfaqs.shtml>

Form 503 – General Information (Assumed Name Certificate)

https://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/forms/503_boc.pdf

Assumed Names in Texas (attorney blog)

<https://lonestarlandlaw.com/assumed-names-in-texas/>

What is an assumed business name? (attorney blog)

<https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/expert-insights/assumed-names-dba-what-you-need-to-know>

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)