

Bench Warrant Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on bench warrants. When a judge issues a warrant for someone's arrest, often after that person does not appear for his/her court date, this is referred to as a "bench" warrant. 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

Code of Criminal Procedure

- Ch. 15 Arrest Under Warrant § 15.03 Magistrate May Issue Warrant or Summons
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.15.htm>
- § 24.13 Attachment for Convict Witness
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.24.htm#24.13>

Secondary Resources in Print

Texas Litigation Guide REF KFT 1730.T4

- Vol. 9, §133.04 Contempt and Due Process of Law
- Vol. 23, §381.20[5] Incarcerated Parent's Right to Appear in Court (Termination)

Online Resources

Attorney's Request for Bench Warrant (Dallas County)

https://www.dallascounty.org/Assets/uploads/docs/county-clerk/forms/Bench-Warrant-Request_v2.pdf

Bench Warrants in Texas

<https://www.shouselaw.com/tx/defense/warrants/bench-warrant/>

Form Library (County and District Clerks Association Texas) – *contains multiple options for bench warrants*

<https://cdcatexas.com/information/form-library>

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)

