

Civil Rights Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on civil rights. The rights granted to every citizen of the United States by the Constitution and all its amendments are known as civil rights. (*Black's Law Dictionary*) Some resources included here are specific to prisoners' civil rights. 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

Civil Rights Act of 1964 (GovInfo)
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-342/pdf/COMPS-342.pdf>

Civil Rights Act (National Archives)
<https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/civil-rights-act>

42 U.S.C.S. § 1983 Civil Action for Deprivation of Rights

Texas Human Resources Code §121.001 *et seq.* (Disabled)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HR/htm/HR.121.htm>

Texas Labor Code §21.001 *et seq.* (Employment)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LA/htm/LA.21.htm>

Texas Property Code §301.001 *et seq.* (Housing)
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PR/htm/PR.301.htm>

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure § 48.05 Restoration of Civil Rights

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.48.htm#48.05>

Penal Code §39.04 (Improper Relations with Prisoner)

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.39.htm#39.04>

Secondary Resources in Print

General

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Litigation: The Law Section 1983 KF 1325.C58N34

Section 1983, Sword and Shield: Civil Rights Violations KF 1325.C58 S42

State & Local Government Civil Rights Liability KF 1325.C58 B63

West's Texas Digest KFT 1257.W48

- Vols. 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, 8G Civil Rights

Civil Rights Actions KF 4746.5.C66

Federal Civil Rights Acts KF 4749.A745

Civil Rights in the Workplace KF 3464.P48

Emerson, Haber, and Dorsen's Political and Civil Rights in the United States KF 4748.E5

Texas Criminal Lawyer's Handbook KFT 1775.D36

- Vol. 1, F-5 & F-6 Constitutional Rights (*before Table of Contents*)

Texas Torts and Remedies KFT 1395.T49

- Vol 4:62 Civil Rights

Federal Procedure (Lawyer's Edition)

- Vol. 6 Civil Rights

Federal Procedural Forms KF 8836.F4

- Vol. 5, Ch. 10 Civil Rights

ERISA Practice and Litigation KF 3512.A6 P65

- Ch. 5.6 Statutory Provisions-Civil Remedies-Penalties

First Amendment Law Handbook KF 4770.S9 2004-2009

The Legal Rights and Responsibilities of the First Amendment's Religious Liberty Clauses KF 4783.A75 S7

Prisoners' Rights

- **O'Connor's Texas Crimes & Consequences REF KFT 1761.Z9D87**
 - Chart 15-A-177 Violations of the Civil Rights of Person in Custody (Penal Code §39.04)
- **Texas Criminal Practice Guide KFT 1775.T49**
 - Vol. 4, Ch. 92 Prisoners' Rights

- Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (USDJ) <https://civilrights.justice.gov/>
- Texas Civil Rights Project <https://txcivilrights.org/get-help/civil-rights-intake-form/>
- The Civil Rights Act of 1964: An Overview (Congressional Research Service) <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R46534.pdf>
- Civil Rights Enforcement (City of Fort Worth) <https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/department/s/diversity-inclusion/civil-rights-enforcement>
- Civil Rights (United States Attorney's Office) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/civil-rights-complaints>

Prisoners' Rights

- Prisoner's Civil Rights Complaint (Northern District) <https://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/forms/1983Complaint.pdf>
- Offender Forms (TSLL) <https://guides.sll.texas.gov/legal-forms/offender-forms>
- Criminal Defendant's Rights <https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/defendants-rights-during-court-trial-29793.html>

CLE Materials

Bill of Rights Course KF 4744.S7

Employment Law 101 KFT 1531.A75 E46

- 2022 Ch. 3 The Five Ws (and One H) of Workplace Discrimination and Retaliation Law

Legal Assistance

Online Resources

General

- Non-Prisoner Complaint for Violation of Civil Rights (US Courts) https://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/complaint_for_violation_of_civil_rights_non-prisoner.pdf
- Civil Rights Complaints Northern District of Texas (USDJ) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/civil-rights-complaints>

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)