

Enforcement/Contempt (Family Law) Research Guide

Overview

The Law Library frequently gets questions about patrons wanting to enforce a court order or hold someone in contempt in family law cases. This research guide includes information and resources related to family law issues: enforcement of child custody, visitation, and property division. For spousal maintenance or alimony, see its separate research guide. For other civil matters, there is not a research guide.

Statutes & Codes

Texas Family Code / Texas Legislature
www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov

- Ch. 157 - Enforcement

Secondary Resources in Print

Texas Family Law Practice Manual 2020 KFT 1294.T4S7

- Vol. 3, Ch. 31 – Enforcement - Property
- Vol. 3, Ch. 33 – Enforcement – Child Support
- Vol. 3, Ch. 34 – Enforcement – Possession and Access
- Vol. 3, Ch. 35 - Contempt

Texas Family Law: Practice and Procedure KFT 1294.F35

- Objective I: Modifying and Enforcing Spousal Support
- Objective J: Enforcing Child Support Decree
- Objective K: Enforcing Conservatorship Decree
- Objective L: Enforcing Property Division
- Objective M: Handling Interstate Support Enforcement and Modification

- Objective N: Defending Against Enforcement Proceedings

Dorsaneo's Texas Litigation Guide KFT 1730.T4

- Ch. 364 – Post-Dissolution Property Suits
- Ch. 372 – Enforcement of SAPCR Orders

O'Connor's Texas Family Law Handbook KFT 1294.A291 O26

- Ch. 10 – Enforcing Child-Support Orders
- Ch. 11 – Enforcing Orders of Possession or Access

O'Connor's Texas Family Law Forms KFT 1294 A65 W55

- Ch. 16 – Enforcing Child-Support Orders
- Ch. 17 – Enforcing Orders of Possession or Access
- Ch. 18 – Enforcing Property Division

CLE Materials

Advanced Family Law Course KFT 1294.S83

- 2020 Ch. 6: Enforcement with Contempt
- 2019 Ch. 2: The Great Divide [Part Three] Property Case Update, Section V – Enforcement, p. 9
- 2019 Ch.27.1: UCCJEA, UIFSA, and UPA Made Easy – UCCJEA, Section XIV. Enforcement, p. 14-19
- 2019 Ch. 31: Child Support and Possession Enforcement Trial Demonstration Facts
- 2019 Ch. 43: Making Them Pay: Enforcement of Property Divisions
- 2018 Ch. 3: Supreme Court of Texas Update, Section D – Interference with Child Possession, p. 28
- 2018 Ch. 18: Crossing Borders: Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments and Agreements

- 2017 Ch. 23: Enforcement of the Property Division
- 2017 Ch. 38: Contempt Demonstration
- 2016 Ch. 32: Contempt Enforcement “Trial Demonstration”
- 2016 Ch. 55: Rule11s, ISAs, MSAs, & Enforcement
- 2015 Ch. 28: Child Support Enforcement – It Only Takes One
- 2015 Ch. 37: I Want My Stuff: Property Enforcement (Chapter 9 Remedies)
- 2014 Ch. 15: Premarital and Marital Agreements, Section A:5 Contesting Enforcement, p. 5-15
- 2014 Ch. 44: Contempt Trial Demonstration
- 2013 Ch.1: “Mine! Mine!” Property Case Law Update, Section V. Enforcement of Property Division, p. 16-22
- 2011 Ch. 36: Beyond Contempt – Enforcing SAPCR Orders
- 2007 Ch. 16: Enforcing Support and Possession Orders
- 2007 Ch. 20: How to Get What You Got (In the Decree) Securing and Enforcing the Property Division

Advanced Family Law Drafting KFT 1294.A92

- 2013 Ch. 14: Enforcement and Contempt Essentials
- 2008 Ch. 18: Drafting Issues in Enforcement Actions (Includes forms on pages 9-20)
- 2001 Ch. 7: Enforcement

Litigation Update Institute KFT 1738.A2S7

- 2015 Ch. 5: Contempt of Court
- 2013 Ch.1: Supreme Court of Texas Update, Section XV. Family Law – C. Contempt Order, p. 28

Family Law 101 KFT 1294.A75 F351

- 2016 Ch. 6 Enforcement of Orders by Contempt – Criminal Trial in the Family Court

Marriage Dissolution Institute KFT 1300.M372

- 2018 Ch. 14 Have Child, Will Travel: UCCJEA and Enforcement Under the Hague Convention

Online Resources

For information about how to enforce your visitation or possession order, call the Access and Visitation Hotline at 866-292-4636 or go to their website: www.TxAccess.org.

Visitation Journal for Visitation Enforcement (TexasLawHelp.org)
<https://texaslawhelp.org/form/visitation-journal>

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)