

Pretrial Conference Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on pretrial conference. A pretrial conference is “an informal meeting at which opposing attorneys confer, usually with the judge, to work toward the disposition of the case by discussing matters of evidence and narrowing the issues that will be tried. The conference takes place shortly before trial and ordinarily results in a pretrial order.” (*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 Rules of Civil Procedure

<https://www.txcourts.gov/rules-forms/rules-standards/>

- Rule 166 Pre-Trial Conference

Secondary Resources in Print

Texas Rules Civil Trials REF KFT 1729 .A1903

- Ch. 5-A Pretrial Conference

Texas Trial Handbook 3D REF KFT 1738 .T4

- Vol. 1, Ch. 10 §10:1 *et seq* Pretrial Conference
- Vol. 1, Ch. 10 §10:25 Motion for pretrial conference
- Vol. 1, Ch. 10 §10:26 Agreement by counsel to set case for pretrial conference
- Vol. 1, Ch. 10 §10:27 Order setting pretrial conference

Texas Family Law Practice Manual: Practice Notes REF KFT 1294 .T4S7

- §19.2 Pretrial Conference

Texas Litigation Guide REF KFT 1730 .T4

- Vol. 7, Ch. 110 Pretrial Conferences

Texas Family Law Practice and Procedure REF KFT 1294 .F35

- Vol. 2, Task E5.01 Attending Pretrial Conference

Texas Practice Guide REF KFT 1280 .T4931

- Civil Pretrial, Vol. 2, §16:35 Pretrial Conference
- Family Law, Vol. 1, §5:47-49; §5:364 Pretrial Conference
- Personal Injury, Vol. 4, §10:105 *et seq* Pretrial Conference

Texas Jurisprudence 3rd ed. REF KFT 1265 .T48

- Vol. 59, Pretrial Conference, p. 335-345.

CLE Materials

Advanced Family Law Course KFT 1294 .S83

- 2020 Ch. 1 Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything There is a Season): Property Case Law Update, p. 4

Advanced Civil Trial Course KFT 1738 .A2S73

- 2018 Ch. 28 Competency and Strategy in Electronic Discovery – Rule 16. Pretrial Conferences; Scheduling; Management, p. 26-31 (Federal Rules of Civil Procedure)

Online Resources

Pretrial Conference (Tarrant County Law Library Forms) <https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/law-library/forms.html>

How Court Works: Steps in a Trial – Pre-trial Conferences (American Bar Association) https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/resources/law_related_education_network/how_courts_work/pretrial_conference/

What Happens if We go to Court to Divorce? – Section 4. Pretrial Matters (NOLO) https://www.divorcenet.com/states/nationwide/what_happens_if_we_go_to_court?

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)