

# Retaining or Reinstating a Case Research Guide

## Overview

This research guide is designed to provide information for retaining (keeping your case from dismissal) or reinstating your case (reopening a case that has been vacated by a judge). 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 & Codes

Texas Statutes Online [www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov)

Texas Rules of Civil Procedure

- Rule 165(a) and Rule 306(a)(4)  
<https://www.txcourts.gov/rules-forms/rules-standards/>

## Secondary Resources in Print

**Texas Family Law Practice Manual REF KFT 1294 .T4S7**

- Vol. 1, Ch. 8 Ancillary Motions & Proceedings
  - §8-82 Motion to Retain Case on Docket
  - §8-83 Order on Motion to Retain Case on Docket and Pretrial Order
  - §8-84 Motion to Reinstate Case on Docket
  - §8-85 Order on Motion to Reinstate Case on Docket

**Texas Family Law Practice and Procedure KFT 1294 .F35**

- Vol. 2, Task E, Forms, E5.142 Motion and Order to Reinstate Case Dismissed for Want of Prosecution

**Texas Litigation Guide KFT 1730 .T4**

- Vol. 7, Ch. 103 Dismissal

**Texas Pretrial Practice KFT 1737 .T4B7**

- Vol. 2, Ch. 37 Default Judgment and Dismissals

## CLE Materials

**Advanced Civil Appellate Practice Course KFT 1755 A75S7**

- 2020 Ch. 1 Supreme Court of Texas Update
- 2020 Ch. 12 Plenary Power and Post-Judgment Motions in State and Federal Court
- 2020 Ch. 19 TCPA: A Shifting Tide in 2020

**Advanced Administrative Law Course KFT 1640 A75S7**

- 2020 Ch. 3 Procedure Due Process in Contested Case Proceedings

## Online Resources

How to Retain or Reinstate a Case Dismissed by the Court (Texas Law Help)

<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/how-to-retain-or-reinstate-a-case-dismissed-by-the-court>

County Court at Law No. 2 Dismissal Procedures:

<https://access.tarrantcounty.com/en/civil-courts/county-courts/county-court-at-law-2/court-rules/dismissal-procedures.html>

County Court at Law No. 3 Dismissal Procedures:

<https://access.tarrantcounty.com/en/civil-courts/county-courts/county-court-at-law-3/court-rules/dismissal-procedures.html>

## 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)

