The Information Edge

Current Legal News from Collin County's Curt B. Henderson Library

Spring 2026

Issue 2026-01 **www.collincountytx.gov** **Feb - Apr 2026**

Listen & Learn Hour

Do you qualify for Expunction or Non-Disclosure of a criminal charge? We're excited to host our 2nd Law Library Listen & Learn Hour with guest speaker Attorney Kamisha Dumas from Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas. This workshop will cover the process of **Expunctions and Non-Disclosures**. Please join us in the Law Library on: **Thursday April 16, 2026, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**. For signup and more information please contact: lawlibrary@co.collin.tx.us or Caroline Escamilla - Asst Law Librarian/Pro Se Coordinator at cescamilla@co.collin.tx.us; 214-491-4817

Reminders

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Payment Policy: **CASH** only
Copies and Forms:
$0.10/page,
rounded down to the nearest dollar
Note: Computers automatically delete downloads at 4:50 PM

Library Closures

The Law Library will be closed on:
Friday, 04-03-2026
for **Good Friday**.

Pro Se Clinic

Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas provides legal help for qualifying low-income people on
Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
in the **429th District Court**

Contact Info

Email: lawlibrary@co.collin.tx.us
Phone: 972-548-4255
Kimberly Manzano, Law Librarian
Email: kmanzano@co.co.collin.tx.us

Black History Month - February

Excerpts from President Donald J. Trump's Black History Month Proclamation:

This year, we celebrate the most significant milestone in our Nation's history: 250 glorious years of American independence. From the very beginning, our country has been blessed with countless black American heroes. For more than two and a half centuries, these legends have made timeless contributions to our government, laws, military, economy, workforce, and culture. With their tremendous legacy in mind, as President, I proclaim that "black history" is not distinct from American history - rather, the history of black Americans is an indispensable chapter in our grand American story.

America's founding was rooted in the belief that every man, woman, and child is created equal, "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights," and free to live lives in "pursuit of Happiness." For 250 years, these principles have inspired and informed the independent, bold, and pioneering American spirit. It is our bedrock belief in equality that drove black American icons to help fulfill the promise of these principles. And it is our unwavering commitment to liberty that continues to sustain our Nation's greatness.

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Since the great Prince Estabrook became the first black man to shed his blood for our emerging Nation at the Battle of Lexington more than 250 years ago, heroic black Americans have valiantly fought for our liberty on the fields of battle, in the pews of our churches, and in our shops, restaurants, and businesses. Across every generation, legendary black Americans have fiercely defended the values set forth in our Declaration of Independence and helped to make our Republic the greatest country in the history of the world. From the unflinching faith of Lemuel Haynes, the soaring prose of Phillis Wheatley, and the unmatched resolve of Harriet Tubman to the towering intellect of Frederick Douglass, the fearlessness of Jesse Owens, and the brilliance of Katherine Johnson and Thomas Sowell, countless black patriots have stood as the vanguards of our freedom - and are among some of the most heroic Americans to have ever lived.

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My Administration will never stop working to ensure that our country and every future generation of American citizens remain guided by the same truth: We are one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

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https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2026/02/national-black-history-month-2026/

Assistant Law Librarian / Pro Se Coordinator

Are you representing yourself in a Family Law or Civil Case? Do you need help with the process or procedures? Are you not sure what steps are next?
We are excited to announce our newest member of the Law Library, **Caroline Escamilla**, **Assistant Law Librarian - Pro Se Coordinator**. Please contact Caroline at cescamilla@co.collin.tx.us, 214-491-4817, or stop by the Law Library in person with questions related to the process or procedures for Family Law or Civil Cases.

Recent Changes to Texas Law

Kinship Foster Families:
In November 2025, Texas Health and Human Services Commission implemented Senate Bill 593 to streamline regulations for relatives to serve as foster families. Changes include: simplifying housing inspections; eliminating some training requirements; and requiring less documentation for over-the counter medications.
Eviction:
Effective January 1, 2026, in Senate Bill 38, Texas made changes to eviction laws. Changes include: eviction courts decide possession only (counterclaims and other challenges must be filed separately); faster removal of squatters; tenant protection against immediate eviction for a 1st late rent payment; changes to who may serve a citation; accelerated timelines; and rent must be paid during appeal.

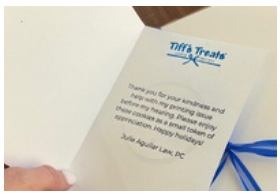
From the Law Librarian's Desk

A few cards of appreciation from the recent holiday seasons -
I am privileged to work with a group that all have the same goal, to help those who visit the Law library the best we can.



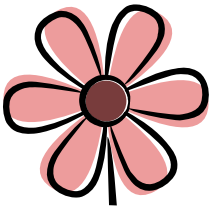


We are grateful every day to be able to assist patrons during challenging times.
Small reminders of why we do what we do!
We are honored to serve our county.

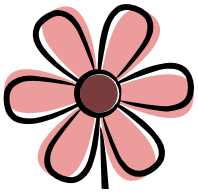


Tarrant County People's Law School









Saturday, March 7, 2026, 12:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Sign up online:

For 19 years, the Tarrant County Bar Association and the Tarrant County Bar Foundation have presented People's Law School. Held annually in the spring, People's Law School offers the pubic an opportunity to learn the basics of common legal issues. Participants can attend **two sessions**, each 50 minutes long and taught by local attorneys. There is no cost to attend.

For more information, please contact Sarah Hoffman at sarah@tarrantbar.org.

AI (Artifical Intelligence) Hallucinations Article

Here's an interesting article about AI hallucinations - Goldin, Hana L. (30 Dec 2025). How to Spot AI Hallucinations like a Reference Librarian. *LLRX | Law and Technology Resources for Legal Professionals*: https://www.llrx.com/2025/12/how-to-spot-ai-hallucinations-like-a-reference-librarian/ The article advises subjecting sources cited by AI to an Existence Check, a Content Check, and a Context Check. It concludes: "Use AI to explore. Use libraries to verify. Use your brain to evaluate."

New on the Shelf

- O'Connor's Texas Causes of Action 2026
- O'Connor's Federal Rules Civil Trials 2026
- O'Connor's Texas Family Law Handbook 2026
- O' Connor's Texas Employment Code Plus 2025-2026
- Texas Property Code - West's Texas Statutes and Codes, 2026 Edition
- Texas Insurance Code - West's Texas Statutes and Codes, Volumes 1-2, 2026 Edition
- Texas Criminal Lawyer's Handbook, Revision 26
- Texas Probate Forms & Procedures Revision 12

Legal Humor



"Guilty or not guilty. Not 'so what if I did?'"