

# TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL CHARGES



# CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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Charge 1: Monitor implementation of the Texas Business Court.

Charge 2: Study the use of Artificial Intelligence in Texas Courts across the board—management, procedure, evidence, filings, security, etc.—and recommend any necessary reforms. (Joint Charge with Data Committee)

Charge 3: Study ways to improve court efficiency and recommend any necessary reforms. (Joint Charge with the Criminal Justice Committee)

Charge 4: Monitor the legislatively mandated study being conducted by the Office of Court Administration of the court personnel workload of the district and statutory county courts and make recommendations regarding any increased need for additional court staff. (Joint Charge with Public Trust and Confidence and Criminal Justice Committees)



# CIVIL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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Charge 5: Study ways to simplify the jurisdiction of the courts of Texas and to make jurisdiction uniform by court level and across the State.

Charge 6: Study whether extending judicial terms from 4 to 6 years for trial courts and from 6 to 8 years for appellate courts would materially improve the courts' ability to discharge their judicial function, would provide greater stability in the judiciary, and would allow greater participation by voters because of the decrease in the number of judicial positions up for election at any given time. (Joint Charge with the Criminal Justice and Public Trust and Confidence Committees)

Charge 7: Continue to study the landscape of the Texas Civil Justice System and recommend any other necessary or desirable reforms to improve access to justice in Texas Courts.



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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Charge 1: Study ways to improve court and personal security for judges and court staff and recommend any necessary reforms.

Charge 2: Study ways to improve court efficiency and recommend any necessary reforms. (Joint Charge with the Civil Justice Committee)

Charge 3: Continue to evaluate and monitor Texas' pretrial bail system for improvement and recommend any needed statutory and non-statutory changes.

Charge 4: Monitor the Judiciary's role and work with Operation Lone Star.



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

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Charge 5: Monitor the legislatively mandated study being conducted by the Office of Court Administration of the court personnel workload of the district and statutory county courts and make recommendations regarding any increased need for additional court staff. (Joint Charge with Civil Justice and Public Trust and Confidence Committees)

Charge 6: Study whether extending judicial terms from 4 to 6 years for trial courts and from 6 to 8 years for appellate courts would materially improve the courts' ability to discharge their judicial function, would provide greater stability in the judiciary, and would allow greater participation by voters because of the decrease in the number of judicial positions up for election at any given time. (Joint Charge with the Civil Justice and Public Trust and Confidence Committees)



# DATA COMMITTEE

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Charge 1: Continue to work on guiding the revisions of the court activity reporting requirements to collect case-level statistical data.

Charge 2: Study the use of Artificial Intelligence in Texas Courts across the board—management, procedure, evidence, filings, security, etc.—and recommend any necessary reforms. (Joint Charge with Civil Justice Committee)

Charge 3: Study ways to improve public access to all court filings, docket entries, and other information comparable to PACER.

Charge 4: Study the feasibility of and make recommendations regarding alternative methods for submitting the clerk's record on appeal.



# PUBLIC TRUST & CONFIDENCE COMMITTEE

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Charge 1: Study ways to improve access to courts and recommend any necessary reforms.

Charge 2: Monitor the legislatively mandated study being conducted by the Office of Court Administration of the court personnel workload of the district and statutory county courts and make recommendations regarding any increased need for additional court staff. (Joint Charge with Civil Justice and Criminal Justice Committees)

Charge 3: Review comprehensive all-hazard emergency management plans for the judiciary and recommend any necessary reforms.

Charge 4: Study judicial profession shortages and recommend methods to increase recruitment and any necessary reforms.



# PUBLIC TRUST & CONFIDENCE COMMITTEE

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Charge 5: Study whether extending judicial terms from 4 to 6 years for trial courts and from 6 to 8 years for appellate courts would materially improve the courts' ability to discharge their judicial function, would provide greater stability in the judiciary, and would allow greater participation by voters because of the decrease in the number of judicial positions up for election at any given time. (Joint Charge with the Civil Justice and Criminal Justice Committees)

Charge 6: Continue to monitor public trust and confidence in the Texas Judiciary and recommend any necessary reforms to increase public support and respect.

