

TARRANT COUNTY

NEWS & INFORMATION



September 2011



www.tarrantcounty.com

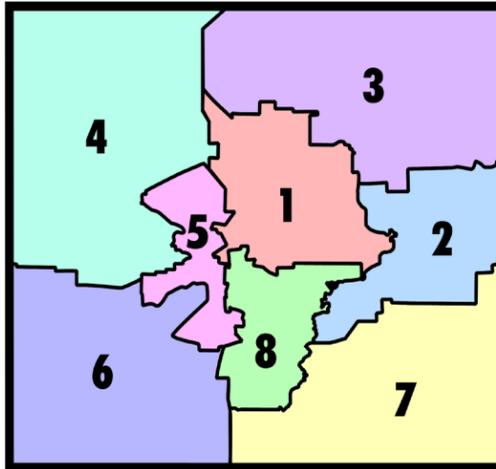
Public Hearing on Tarrant County Justice Precinct Redistricting

A public hearing on the Illustrative Justice Precinct Plan will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 20, in the Commissioners Courtroom on the fifth floor of the County Administration Building at 100 E. Weatherford Street in downtown Fort Worth.

Justice precincts include both Justice of the Peace and Constable boundaries. Justice precincts boundary adjustments are typically related to distribution of workload.

Due to a change in workloads, some boundary adjustments have been recommended. The Tarrant County Commissioners Court is considering new boundaries for its eight Justice precincts and wants to hear from you.

The Illustrative Plan is available for public inspection on the County's website at www.tarrantcounty.com. You may also call 817-884-2535, if you have any questions.



Do you KnoWhat2Do in case of an emergency?



KnoWhat2Do
Think. Prepare. Act.

Over the past decade, our country has seen hundreds of natural disasters – ranging from blizzards and wildfires to hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding that disrupt or even destroy families' homes and entire communities across America. These events can happen without warning, changing our lives in an instant.

According to a national survey, only 36 percent of individuals believed there was a high likelihood of a natural disaster to EVER happen in their community. Many people think they have everything they need in the event of an emergency at hand, and can simply "grab and go."

September is National Preparedness Month and a good reminder that we all have a responsibility in protecting ourselves, families and our communities. Emergencies will happen, but taking action now can help us minimize the impact they will have on our lives. People need to be prepared for those first 72 hours before help can reach them.

The regional KnoWhat2Do Campaign (in collaboration with the national Ready Campaign) is reminding North Texans to take important preparedness steps including:

- get an emergency supply kit;
- make a family emergency plan;
- be informed about the emergencies and their appropriate responses;
- get involved in community efforts, such as Citizen Corps Councils.

Throughout September, activities and events will take place across the county to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement.

The KnoWhat2Do Campaign encourages you to take a few extra minutes this month to plan in case of an emergency. Consider the following questions:

- Have you spoken to your children's schools about their shelter-in-place and/or evacuation plans?
- Do you know the evacuation plan at your work?
- If your cell phone was inoperable, how would you get in touch with your family?
- Do you have a family meeting place and an out of town contact?

These are just a few of the questions you should consider as you are developing your emergency plan.

Free preparedness resources are just a click away at www.knowwhat2do.com. An Emergency Plan template and an Emergency Supply Kit Checklist are also available at www.ready.gov or by calling 1-800-BE-READY.

County Clerk Introduces Instant Turnaround Service

Customers of the County Clerk's Office who file property deeds, mineral leases and other records will no longer have to wait days to pick up their original documents.

Instead, through its Instant Turnaround Service, they will have their originals back in the few minutes it takes a clerk to digitize them and, just about as quickly, their digitized records will appear on the County Clerk's website.

In addition to improving customer convenience, the new service delivers substantial savings in postage, envelopes and staff time it took to return thousands of original documents by mail.

The Instant Turnaround Service is limited to no more than 10 records at a time, but most large-volume customers can file documents electronically with the County Clerk.

The Records Filing Office is in Room 130-A at the 1895 Courthouse, 100 West Weatherford Street in downtown Fort Worth.

National Passport Day

The Tarrant County District Clerk's Office is joining the U.S. Department of State in observing "Passport Day in the USA," a national passport information and outreach event. As part of the effort, the office will host four separate Passport Fairs on Saturday, September 17th, 2011 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

The events will be held at the following locations:

- Southlake Town Hall
1400 Main Street, Ste 340
Southlake (817-481-8190)
- Arlington Sub-Courthouse
700 E. Abram Street, Ste 204
Arlington (817-548-3963)
- Southwest Sub-Courthouse
6551 Granbury Road
Fort Worth (817-370-4570)
- Northwest Sub-Courthouse
6713 Telephone Road
Fort Worth (817-238-4457).

The Passport Fairs are being held on a Saturday to provide a more convenient opportunity for families to apply for passports outside the normal Monday through Friday hours.

Information on the cost and application requirements is available from Tarrant County at www.tarrantcounty.com, or from the State Department at www.travel.state.gov. The District Clerk is an authorized agent for the U.S. Department of State.