

1-1 By: Chavez (Senate Sponsor - Shapleigh) H.B. No. 4008
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2007;
1-3 May 9, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 17, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 17, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the creation of additional county criminal courts at
1-9 law in El Paso County.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 25.0731(a), Government Code, is amended
1-12 to read as follows:

1-13 (a) El Paso County has the following statutory county
1-14 courts:

- 1-15 (1) County Court at Law No. 1 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-16 (2) County Court at Law No. 2 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-17 (3) County Court at Law No. 3 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-18 (4) County Court at Law No. 4 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-19 (5) County Court at Law No. 5 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-20 (6) County Court at Law No. 6 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-21 (7) County Court at Law No. 7 of El Paso County, Texas;
- 1-22 (8) County Criminal Court at Law No. 1 of El Paso

1-23 County, Texas; ~~and~~

1-24 (9) County Criminal Court at Law No. 2 of El Paso
1-25 County, Texas;

1-26 (10) County Criminal Court at Law No. 3 of El Paso
1-27 County, Texas; and

1-28 (11) County Criminal Court at Law No. 4 of El Paso
1-29 County, Texas.

1-30 SECTION 2. Sections 25.0732(y) and (z), Government Code,
1-31 are amended to read as follows:

1-32 (y) The El Paso Council of Judges shall order the transfer
1-33 of criminal misdemeanor cases to the county criminal courts at law
1-34 [County Criminal Courts No. 1 and No. 2] from time to time to
1-35 equalize the criminal misdemeanor dockets of the statutory county
1-36 courts for the efficient operation of the court system and the
1-37 effective administration of justice. In determining the court to
1-38 which a case is transferred, the council shall give preference to a
1-39 county criminal court at law that is required to give preference to
1-40 certain cases under Subsection (z).

1-41 (z) The County Criminal Courts No. 1, ~~and~~ No. 2, No. 3, and
1-42 No. 4 have the criminal jurisdiction provided by this section and
1-43 other law for statutory county courts in El Paso County and
1-44 appellate jurisdiction in appeals of criminal cases from justice
1-45 courts and municipal courts in the county as provided by Article
1-46 45.042, Code of Criminal Procedure. The County Criminal Court No. 4
1-47 shall give preference to cases prosecuted under:

1-48 (1) Section 22.01, Penal Code, in which the victim is a
1-49 person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is
1-50 described under Chapter 71, Family Code; and

1-51 (2) Section 25.07, Penal Code.

1-52 SECTION 3. The County Criminal Court at Law No. 3 of El Paso
1-53 County, Texas, and the County Criminal Court at Law No. 4 of El Paso
1-54 County, Texas, are created September 1, 2007.

1-55 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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