

By: Flynn

H.B. No. 1897

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of, number of jurors in, and the clerk serving the County Court at Law of Van Zandt County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 25.2362, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (f) and adding Subsection (i) to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, and except as limited by Subsection (b), a county court at law in Van Zandt County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in:

(1) felony cases to:

(A) conduct arraignments;

(B) conduct pretrial hearings;

(C) accept guilty pleas; and

(D) conduct jury trials on assignment of a district judge presiding in Van Zandt County and acceptance of the assignment by the judge of the county court at law;

(2) Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases;

(3) family law matters;

(4) juvenile matters;

(5) probate matters;

(6) guardianship matters; and

(7) [~~6~~] appeals from the justice and municipal

1 courts.

2 (f) The district clerk serves as clerk of a county court at
3 law in family court matters and proceedings [~~of concurrent~~
4 ~~jurisdiction with the district court~~], and the county clerk shall
5 serve as clerk of a county court at law in all other matters. Each
6 clerk shall establish a separate docket for a county court at law.

7 (i) If a jury trial is requested in a case that is in a
8 county court at law's jurisdiction, the jury shall be composed of
9 six members unless the constitution requires a 12-member jury.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.