

By: Flynn

H.B. No. 1897

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the jurisdiction of, number of jurors in, and the clerk
3 serving the County Court at Law of Van Zandt County.

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

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

8 (a) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section
9 25.0003 and other law, and except as limited by Subsection (b), a
10 county court at law in Van Zandt County has concurrent jurisdiction
11 with the district court in:

- 12 (1) felony cases to:
- 13 (A) conduct arraignments;
 - 14 (B) conduct pretrial hearings;
 - 15 (C) accept guilty pleas; and
 - 16 (D) conduct jury trials on assignment of a
17 district judge presiding in Van Zandt County and acceptance of the
18 assignment by the judge of the county court at law;
- 19 (2) Class A and Class B misdemeanor cases;
- 20 (3) family law matters;
- 21 (4) juvenile matters;
- 22 (5) probate matters;
- 23 (6) guardianship matters; and
- 24 (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.