

By: Krause

H.B. No. 3376

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the appointment of bailiffs in family district courts in Tarrant County.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 53, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. BAILIFFS FOR FAMILY DISTRICT COURTS IN TARRANT COUNTY

Sec. 53.101. OFFICE OF BAILIFF. The judges of the 231st, 233rd, 322nd, 323rd, 324th, 325th, and 360th district courts may appoint one person to serve as bailiff of that court and one person to serve as bailiff for the district court served by an associate judge of that district court. A bailiff is an officer of the court and performs the duties of the office under the direction and supervision of the judge of the court.

Sec. 53.102. APPOINTMENT. An order signed by the appointing judge and entered on the minutes of the court is evidence of appointment of a bailiff. The judge shall give written notice to the commissioners court and each constable of Tarrant County of the appointment and date employed.

Sec. 53.103. QUALIFICATIONS. A bailiff must be a citizen of the United States and must be 18 years of age or older.

Sec. 53.104. BAILIFF AS DEPUTY. On written notice of the appointment from the judge, a constable of the county may deputize the bailiff in addition to other deputies authorized by law.

1       Sec. 53.105. OATH. The following oath must be administered  
2 by the appointing judge to the bailiff appointed under this  
3 subchapter: "I solemnly swear that I will perform faithfully and  
4 impartially all duties required of me and required by law so help me  
5 God."

6       Sec. 53.106. TERM OF OFFICE. The bailiff holds office at  
7 the will of the judge of the court served by the bailiff.

8       Sec. 53.107. DUTIES. A bailiff shall perform the duties  
9 imposed on bailiffs under the general laws of this state and the  
10 other duties required by the judge of the court served.

11       Sec. 53.108. COMPENSATION. The bailiff shall be  
12 compensated out of the general fund of the county in an amount to be  
13 set by the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County.

14       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.