

## **INFORMATION FOR FILING A DIVORCE-PRO SE-**

**THE DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE DOES NOT SUPPLY FORMS NECESSARY TO FILE FOR DIVORCE. WE ARE NOT ATTORNEYS AND ARE LEGALLY PROHIBITED FROM GIVING ANY LEGAL ADVICE.**

If you intend to represent yourself "Pro Se" (without the assistance of an attorney), you must have knowledge to prepare and file the necessary pleadings and present your case to the Court. Some people have purchased forms through an office supply store, the library or through the Internet. The only advice we can offer is to make sure your paperwork contains information needed for a divorce in Texas.

### **PROCEDURES FOR FILING YOUR OWN DIVORCE:**

1. Bring your original petition and 2 copies to the District Clerk's office to be filed.
2. The filing fees are: Divorce where spouse signs a waiver. . . . . \$243.00  
Divorce with a citation in Montague County . . . . . \$351.00  
**ALL FEES ARE DUE AT THE TIME OF FILING**
3. Your petition will be filed and assigned a cause number and court. Please have this information available when contacting our office concerning your case.
4. The District Clerk's phone number is (940) 894-2571.  
Our office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
5. The petition must be on file for a least 60 days before the final hearing can be held.
6. After the 60 days have expired and your paperwork is in order, you may appear before the Court to have the final decree entered. To obtain a hearing, call the Court Coordinator, Linda Burleson, at (940) 538-4314.
7. On the day of the final hearing, you will need to bring your Final Decree and 2 copies. You will also need the completed vital statistics forms required, which can be picked up in the District Clerk's office.
8. Your hearing will be held in the 97<sup>th</sup> District Courtroom located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, which is next to the District Clerk's office. Be seated in the courtroom and wait for the Court to call your case. The judge cannot assist you with your divorce. You must know how to present your case in the courtroom.
9. After your divorce is granted, and child support is ordered, please return to the District Clerk's office. We will need certain required information to set up a child support account with the State Disbursement Unit (SDU) in San Antonio, Texas. All child support is collected and disbursed through this agency.

**LESIA DARDEN, MONTAGUE COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK**