

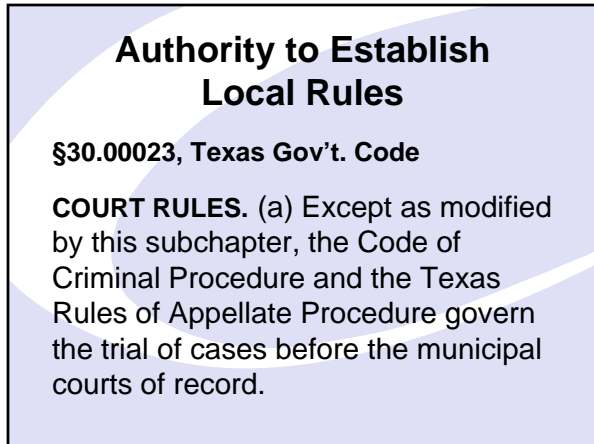


Local Rules

Presented by
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Lewisville Municipal Court



**Authority to Establish
Local Rules?**



**Authority to Establish
Local Rules**

§30.00023, Texas Gov't. Code

COURT RULES. (a) Except as modified by this subchapter, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure govern the trial of cases before the municipal courts of record.

**Authority to Establish
Local Rules**

(cont'd.)
 The courts may make and enforce all rules of practice and procedure necessary to expedite the trial of cases before the courts that are not inconsistent with law.

Code of Criminal Procedure

Art. 1.27, C.C.P.

COMMON LAW GOVERNS.
 If this Code fails to provide a rule of procedure in any particular state of case which may arise, the rules of the common law shall be applied and govern.

TRCP RULE 3a. LOCAL RULES

Each administrative judicial region, ***district court, county court, county court at law, and probate court***, may make and amend local rules governing practice before such courts, provided ...

Why do We have Local Rules?

- To ensure uniformity and fairness in proceedings
- To promote justice
- To manage court dockets
- To help dispose of cases without undue delay/expense
- ??????

Local Rules

Local rules express the court's positions on:

- Rules of Decorum and Procedure
- Setting Hearings
- Pre-trial Procedures (i.e., exchanging exhibits, withdrawal of counsel, sample forms and orders, etc.)
- Dress Codes
- Court Security

Customer Service



Workshop

Standing Order: Continuances

- What is good about the order?
- What problems do you see?
- How would you make it better?
