



BEVERLEY MCGREW WALKER

DISTRICT CLERK
Fort Bend County, Texas

Dear Attorneys and Registered Users:

Effective February 15, 2024, important changes will be implemented by the Fort Bend County District Clerk's Office regarding online document access. Beginning on that date, non-confidential, online images will be made available to the general public without requiring a login.

It is imperative that every filer take note of the following requirement: If your document **MUST** contain sensitive data, you are obligated to notify the CLERK in accordance with Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 21c(d) and Supreme Court Order Misc. Docket No. 17-9039, Statewide Rules Governing Electronic Filing in Criminal Cases – Rule 4.4.

Upon notification of a document containing sensitive data, the clerk will lock the image in accordance with Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 21c(f) and Supreme Court Order Misc. Docket 17-9039 Statewide Rules Governing Electronic Filing in Criminal Cases – Rule 4.6. It is important to be aware that once the document is locked, it will no longer be accessible to you or the general public through our online platform.

Please be advised, in the event that your e-filed document contains sensitive data and is not noted as per statute, the clerk will return the document for correction. This process is in accordance with the Judicial Committee on Information Technology rules (Rule 4.8.4 Request for Correction – *Sensitive Data*), which can be accessed at <https://www.txcourts.gov/media/1435816/technology-standards.pdf>. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that your e-filed documents are in compliance with these standards to avoid any delays or complications in the processing of your submissions.

For your information, documents available through our online case search will only consist of documents containing no sensitive data or documents that contain sensitive data that were redacted by the filer. Therefore, if you wish to view all of your redacted documents through our online platform, please contact your e-filing provider to inquire about auto redaction features that provide both an original version and a redacted version to the District Clerk's Office. This will allow our office to provide a redacted version online without compromising any sensitive data. Please be advised, the STATE PROVIDED EFSP currently provides two copies to the District Clerk's Office: an original and a redacted version.

This decision has been made in the interest of maintaining transparency to the general public and ensuring convenient access to court records from the comfort of your home or office.

Thank you for your attention to these important changes.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information provided in this notice, please do not hesitate to contact our office. You can reach us by phone at **281-633-7675** or by email at distclerk@fortbendcountytexas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beverley McGrew Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Honorable Beverley McGrew Walker, B.A., M.Ed., J.D.
FORT BEND COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK