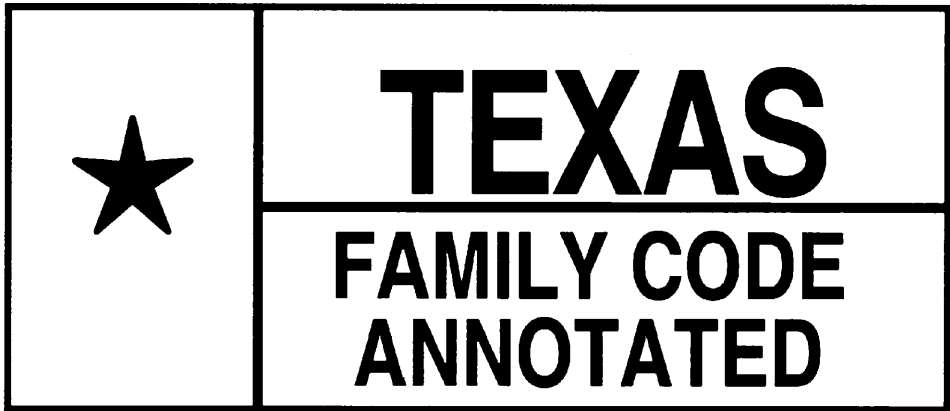


SAMPSON, TINDALL & ENGLAND'S



WITH RELATED STATE STATUTES

**ANNOTATIONS BY
ANGELA PENCE ENGLAND
STEPHANIE STEVENS**

AUGUST 2025 EDITION



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The Authors

John J. Sampson, who together with Harry L. Tindall, created this publication in 1991, passed away in Austin, Texas on June 22, 2025, at the age of 89. His contributions to Texas family law were legendary, from his service to the bar during legislative sessions, as well as his work on the Texas Family Law Section reports. He was the William Benjamin Wynne Professor Emeritus in Law at the University of Texas School of Law, where he taught courses and seminars in family law and legislation. He served as editor of the State Bar Family Law Section Report from 1976 to 2007, and a legislative advisor to both Legislative Committees and the Family Law Council for many years. Professor Sampson served as both co-reporter and reporter for the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, from 1990 to the present. From 1997 through 2002, he was the reporter for the revision of the Uniform Parentage Act. He also served as a member of U.S. State Dept. Delegations, first in 2002 to Central America, and every year from 2003 through 2007 to The Hague, Netherlands, for multilateral negotiations to draft the maintenance convention for international child support enforcement. Without his work and efforts, this publication would not exist.

Harry L. Tindall is a founding member of Tindall England PC, Houston, Texas. He has served as an Emeritus Member of the Joint Editorial Board—Family Law, a joint project of the American Bar Association, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and the Uniform Law Commission. He is also a Life Commissioner from Texas, Uniform Law Commission, where he served as Chair of the drafting committee for the Uniform Parentage Act (2002), and Vice-Chair of the Uniform Collaborative Law Act (2010), and a member of the drafting committee for the Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act. Most recently, he chaired the drafting committee Model Veterans Treatment Court Act. During his years of private practice, Harry was actively involved in all areas of family law bar work in Texas and nationally.

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Preface By The Authors

The August 2025 Edition of *Sampson, Tindall & England's Texas Family Code Annotated*, is the 35th annual edition, and includes all legislative updates the completion of the 89th Legislature 2025, Regular Session. As of the publication of this edition, it is expected that Governor Abbott will call a special session but unknown whether or not any family law topics will be covered.

The 2025 session was a moderately active one with a lot of attention paid to education and whether or not THC products should be allowed to be distributed in Texas. Family law itself saw approximately 300 changes which sounds like a lot but many of those were simply revising cross references or the addition of “reasonable” to references to attorneys fees. The importance of the parental discretion over the say so of nonparents was also a matter of much discussion, ending with both family code changes and a proposed Constitutional amendment that will be voted on by Texans in November.

Legislative amendments and additions are reported in a manner to allow the bench and bar to see at a glance exactly what the legislature enacted, amended and repealed. New statutory language is in **boldfaced type** and deleted language is shown ~~struck through~~.

As in previous editions, new case citations have been added this year, along with an update of yearly CLE and law review articles. It is helpful to retain copies of previous editions of *Sampson, Tindall & England's Texas Family Code Annotated* to determine legislative histories of Family Code sections, as well as citations to older cases and CLE materials.

We once again appreciate the assistance of our team at Thomson Reuters led by Lead Attorney Editor Lisa Dittmann and Lead Legal Editorial Associate Janice Scholz of Thomson Reuters and appreciate their dedication to this project and amazing patience in working with us.

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All statutory references, author commentary, legal articles, case citations and other references in this publication are through:

—Legislation—

89th Texas Legislature (2025), Reg. Sess.

—CLE Materials—

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2025 Marriage Dissolution Institute [MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION]

2025 Collaborative Law Course [COLLABORATIVE LAW]

2025 Innovations—Breaking Boundaries in Child Custody Litigation

—Cases—

715 S.W.3d (June 2025)

www.txcourts.gov/supreme (June 2025)

2025 WL (June 2025)

145 S.Ct. (June 2025)

Table of Contents

TEXAS FAMILY CODE

TITLE 1: The Marriage Relationship

Subtitle A: Marriage

	Page
Chapter 1. General Provisions	2
A. Definitions	2
B. Public Policy	2
Chapter 2. The Marriage Relationship	7
A. Application for Marriage License	8
B. Underage Applicants	15
C. Ceremony and Return of License	16
D. Validity of Marriage	18
E. Marriage Without Formalities	19
F. Rights and Duties of Spouses	23
G. Freedom of Religion with Respect to Recognizing or Performing Certain Marriages	24

Subtitle B: Property Rights and Liabilities

Chapter 3. Marital Property Rights and Liabilities	25
A. General Rules for Separate and Community Property	26
B. Management, Control, and Disposition of Marital Property	37
C. Marital Property Liabilities	40
D. Management, Control, and Disposition of Marital Property Under Unusual Circumstances	41
E. Claims for Reimbursement	43
Chapter 4. Premarital and Marital Property Agreements	48
A. Uniform Premarital Agreement Act	48
B. Marital Property Agreement	53
C. Agreement To Convert Separate Property to Community Property	56
Chapter 5. Homestead Rights	59
A. Sale of Homestead; General Rule	60
B. Sale of Homestead Under Unusual Circumstances	61

Subtitle C: Dissolution of Marriage

Chapter 6. Suit for Dissolution of Marriage	63
A. Grounds for Divorce and Defenses	64

	Page
B. Grounds for Annulment	66
C. Declaring a Marriage Void	69
D. Jurisdiction, Venue, and Residence Qualifications	72
E. Filing Suit	77
F. Temporary Orders	82
G. Alternative Dispute Resolution	87
H. Trial and Appeal	92
I. Remarriage	104
Chapter 7. Award of Marital Property	105
Chapter 8. Maintenance	122
A. General Provisions	125
B. Spousal Maintenance	126
C. Income Withholding	131
D. Procedure	134
E. Rights and Duties of Employer	134
F. Writ of Withholding Issued by Clerk	137
G. Modification, Reduction, or Termination of Withholding	140
H. Maintenance Qualified Domestic Relations Order	141
Chapter 9. Post-Decree Proceedings	143
A. Suit To Enforce Decree	143
B. Post-Decree Qualified Domestic Relations Order	150
C. Post-Decree Division of Property	152
D. Disposition of Undivided Beneficial Interest	155
E. Declaring a Decree Void	158

TITLE 1–A: Collaborative Family Law

Chapter 15. Collaborative Family Law Act	165
A. Application and Construction	165
B. General Provisions	166
C. Collaborative Family Law Process	168

TITLE 2: Child in Relation to the Family

Subtitle A. Limitations of Minority

Chapter 31. Removal of Disabilities of Minority	181
Chapter 32. Consent to Treatment of Child by Non-Parent or Child	184
A. Consent to Medical, Dental, Psychological, and Surgical Treatment	184
B. Immunization	187

	Page
C. Miscellaneous Provisions	188
Chapter 33. Notice of and Consent to Abortion	191
Chapter 34. Authorization Agreement for Nonparent Adult Caregiver	201
Chapter 35. Temporary Authorization for Care of Minor Child.	207
Chapter 35A. Temporary Authorization for Inpatient Mental Health Services for Minor Child	210
 Subtitle B. Parental Liability	
Chapter 41. Liability of Parents for Conduct of Child	212
Chapter 42. Civil Liability for Interference with Possessory Interest in Child	214
 Subtitle C. Change of Name	
Chapter 45. Change of Name	217
A. Change of Name of Child	217
B. Change of Name of Adult	219
 Subtitle E. General Provisions	
Chapter 47. General Provisions	223

TITLE 3: Juvenile Justice Code

Chapter 51. General Provisions	226
Chapter 52. Proceedings Before and Including Referral to Court	263
Chapter 53. Proceedings Prior to Judicial Proceedings	274
Chapter 54. Judicial Proceedings	285
Chapter 55. Proceedings Concerning Children with Mental Illness or Intellectual Disability	333
A. General Provisions	334
B. Court-Ordered Mental Health Services for Child with Mental Illness	337
C. Child Unfit To Proceed as a Result of Mental Illness or Intellectu- al Disability	340
D. Lack of Responsibility for Conduct as a Result of Mental Illness or Intellectual Disability	348
E. Proceedings for Court-Ordered Mental Health or Residential Intellectual Disability Services	351
Chapter 56. Appeal	355

	Page
Chapter 57. Rights of Victims	361
Chapter 58. Records; Juvenile Justice Information System	365
A. Creation and Confidentiality of Juvenile Records	366
B. Juvenile Justice Information System	378
C. Automatic Restriction of Access to Records [Repealed]	384
C-1. Sealing and Destruction of Juvenile Records	384
D. Local Juvenile Justice Information System	392
D-1. Reports on County Internet Websites	397
E. Statewide Juvenile Information and Case Management System ...	398
Chapter 59. Progressive Sanctions Model	400
Chapter 60. Uniform Interstate Compact on Juveniles	407
Chapter 61. Rights and Responsibilities of Parents and Other Eligible Persons	418
A. Entry of Orders Against Parents and Other Eligible Persons	418
B. Enforcement of Order Against Parent or Other Eligible Person	420
C. Rights of Parents	423

TITLE 3A: Truancy Court Proceedings

Chapter 65. Truancy Court Proceedings	428
A. General Provisions	429
B. Initial Procedures	433
C. Adjudication Hearing and Remedies	436
D. Appeal	440
E. Records	441
F. Enforcement of Orders	442

TITLE 4: Protective Orders and Family Violence

Subtitle A. General Provisions

Chapter 71. Definitions	451
--------------------------------------	-----

Subtitle B. Protective Orders

Chapter 81. General Provisions	456
Chapter 82. Applying for Protective Order	462
A. Application for Protective Order	462
B. Pleadings by Respondent	466
C. Notice of Application for Protective Order	467

Chapter 83. Temporary Ex Parte Orders	469
	Page
Chapter 84. Hearing	471
Chapter 85. Issuance of Protective Order	473
A. Findings and Orders	474
B. Contents of Protective Order	478
C. Delivery of Protective Order	485
D. Relationship Between Protective Order and Suit for Dissolution of Marriage and Suit Affecting Parent–Child Relationship...	486
Chapter 86. Law Enforcement Duties Relating to Protective Orders	490
Chapter 87. Modification of Protective Orders	492
Chapter 88. Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Protective Orders Act ...	494

Subtitle C. Family Violence Reporting and Services

Chapter 91. Reporting Family Violence	503
Chapter 92. Immunity	504
Chapter 93. Confidential and Privileged Communications	505

**TITLE 5: The Parent–Child Relationship and the Suit
Affecting the Parent–Child Relationship**

Subtitle A. General Provisions

Chapter 101. Definitions	509
Chapter 102. Filing Suit	517
Chapter 103. Venue and Transfer of Original Proceedings	531
Chapter 104. Evidence	533
Chapter 105. Settings, Hearings, and Orders	538
Chapter 106. Costs and Attorney’s Fees	550
Chapter 107. Special Appointments, Child Custody Evaluations, and Adoption Evaluations	552
A. Court-Ordered Representation in Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship	555
B. Appointments in Certain Suits	568
1. Appointments in Suits By Governmental Entity	569
2. Appointments in Suits Other than Suits by Governmental Entity	577
C. Appointment of Volunteer Advocates	585
D. Child Custody Evaluation	586

	Page
E. Adoption Evaluation	598
F. Evaluations in Contested Adoptions	603
G. Office of Child Representation and Office of Parent Representa- tion	604
H. Managed Assigned Counsel Program for the Representation of Certain Children and Parents	607
Chapter 108. Central Record File; Vital Statistics	610
Chapter 109. Appeals	613
Chapter 110. Court Fees	616
Chapter 111. Guidelines for Possession and Child Support	618
 Subtitle B. Suits Affecting the Parent–Child Relationship	
Chapter 151. Rights and Duties in Parent–Child Relationship	620
Chapter 152. Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act. . .	624
A. Application and Construction	630
B. General Provisions	630
C. Jurisdiction	638
D. Enforcement	651
Chapter 153. Conservatorship, Possession, and Access	662
A. General Provisions	666
B. Parent Appointed as Conservator: In General	681
C. Parent Appointed as Sole or Joint Managing Conservator	684
D. Parent Appointed as Possessory Conservator	691
E. Guidelines for the Possession of a Child by a Parent Named as Possessory Conservator	693
F. Standard Possession Order	695
G. Appointment of Nonparent as Conservator	703
H. Rights of Grandparent, Aunt, or Uncle	706
I. Prevention of International Parental Child Abduction	710
J. Rights of Siblings	714
K. Parenting Plan, Parenting Coordinator, and Parenting Facilitator. . .	715
L. Military Duty	723
Chapter 154. Child Support	727
A. Court–Ordered Child Support	730
B. Computing Net Resources Available for Payment of Child Sup- port	740
C. Child Support Guidelines	757
D. Medical Support and Dental Support for Child	766
E. Local Child Support Registry	777
F. Support for a Minor or Adult Disabled Child	778

	Page
Chapter 155. Continuing, Exclusive Jurisdiction; Transfer	782
A. Continuing, Exclusive Jurisdiction	782
B. Identification of Court of Continuing, Exclusive Jurisdiction	784
C. Transfer of Continuing, Exclusive Jurisdiction	786
D. Transfer of Proceedings Within the State When Party or Child Resides Outside the State	789
Chapter 156. Modification	791
A. General Provisions	791
B. Modification of Conservatorship, Possession and Access, or Determination of Residence	795
C. [Repealed]	800
D. [Repealed]	800
E. Modification of Child Support	800
Chapter 157. Enforcement	805
A. Pleadings and Defenses	808
B. Procedure	811
C. Failure To Appear; Bond or Security	813
D. Hearing and Enforcement Order	816
E. Community Supervision	822
F. Judgment and Interest	824
G. Child Support Lien	829
H. Habeas Corpus	840
I. Clarification of Orders	843
J. Child Support Qualified Domestic Relations Order	844
K. Local Regulation and Enforcement	845
Chapter 158. Withholding from Earnings for Child Support	846
A. Income Withholding Required; General Provisions	848
B. Procedure	850
C. Rights and Duties of Employer	852
D. Judicial Writ of Withholding Issued by Clerk	856
E. Modification, Reduction, or Termination of Withholding	860
F. Administrative Writ of Withholding	861
Chapter 159. Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	865
A. Conflicts Between Provisions	874
B. General Provisions	874
C. Jurisdiction	881
D. Civil Provisions of General Application	893
E. Establishment of Support Order or Determination of Parentage ...	905
F. Enforcement of Support Order Without Registration	907
G. Registration, Enforcement, and Modification of Support Order	912
H. Support Proceeding Under Convention	927

	Page
I. Interstate Rendition	941
J. Miscellaneous Provisions	942
Chapter 160. Uniform Parentage Act	943
A. Application and Construction	948
B. General Provisions	948
C. Parent–Child Relationship	952
D. Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity	955
E. Registry of Paternity	963
F. Genetic Testing	968
G. Proceeding To Adjudicate Parentage	974
H. Child of Assisted Reproduction	986
I. Gestational Agreements	991
Chapter 161. Termination of the Parent–Child Relationship	1001
A. Grounds	1004
B. Procedures	1020
C. Hearing and Order	1025
D. Reinstatement of Parental Rights After Involuntary Termination ...	1029
Chapter 162. Adoption	1032
A. Adoption of a Child	1035
B. Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children	1044
C. Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance	1048
D. Adoption Services by the Department of Family and Protective Services	1051
E. Voluntary Adoption Registries	1054
F. Adoption of an Adult	1061
G. Miscellaneous Provisions	1062
H. Embryo Donation Information	1063

Subtitle C. Judicial Resources and Services

Chapter 201. Associate Judge	1064
A. Associate Judge	1065
B. Associate Judge for Title IV–D Cases	1073
C. Associate Judge for Child Protection Cases	1081
D. Associate Judge for Juvenile Matters	1085
Chapter 202. Friend of the Court	1091
Chapter 203. Domestic Relations Offices	1093
Chapter 204. Child Support Collection by Private Entity	1097

Subtitle D. Administrative Services

Chapter 231. Title IV–D Services	1099
---	-------------

	Page
A. Administration of Title IV–D Program	1101
B. Services Provided by Title IV–D Program	1108
C. Payment of Fees and Costs	1120
D. Location of Parents and Resources	1123
Chapter 232. Suspension of License	1129
Chapter 233. Child Support Review Process To Establish or Enforce Support Obligations	1139
Chapter 234. State Case Registry, Disbursement Unit, and Directory of New Hires	1150
A. Unified State Case Registry and Disbursement Unit	1151
B. State Directory of New Hires	1156
 Subtitle E. Protection of the Child	
Chapter 261. Investigation of Report of Child Abuse or Neglect	1159
A. General Provisions	1161
B. Report of Abuse or Neglect; Immunities	1167
C. Confidentiality and Privileged Communication	1176
D. Investigations	1181
E. Investigations of Abuse, Neglect, or Exploitation in Certain Facilities	1199
F. Protective Order in Certain Cases of Abuse or Neglect	1203
Chapter 262. Procedures in Suit by Governmental Entity to Protect Health and Safety of Child	1206
A. General Provisions	1209
B. Taking Possession of Child	1213
C. Adversary Hearing	1225
D. Emergency Possession of Certain Abandoned Children	1233
E. Relinquishing Child to Obtain Certain Services	1235
F. Family Preservation Services Pilot Program	1236
Chapter 263. Review of Placement of Children Under Care of Depart- ment of Family and Protective Services	1244
A. General Provisions	1247
B. Service Plan and Visitation Plan	1255
C. Status Hearing	1259
D. Permanency Hearings	1261
E. Final Order for Child Under Department Care	1266
F. Permanency Hearings After Final Order	1274
G. Extended Jurisdiction After Child's 18th Birthday	1277
Chapter 264. Child Welfare Services	1282
A. General Provisions	1287

	Page
B. Foster Care	1296
B-1. Community-Based Care	1313
B-2. Rural Community-Based Care Pilot Program	1326
B-2. Receiver for Single-Source Continuum Contractor	1333
C. Child and Family Services	1337
D. Services to At-Risk Youth [Transferred]	1342
E. Children's Advocacy Centers	1343
F. Child Fatality Review and Investigation	1347
G. Court-Appointed Volunteer Advocate Programs	1356
H. Child Abuse Program Evaluation [Repealed]	1359
H-1. Task Force to Reduce Child Abuse and Neglect and Improve Child Welfare [Expired]	1359
I. Relative and Other Designated Caregiver Placement Program	1359
J. Family Drug Court Program [Redesignated]	1364
K. Permanency Care Assistance Program	1364
L. Parental Child Safety Placements	1365
Chapter 265. Prevention and Early Intervention Services [Transferred] ..	1369
A. Prevention and Early Intervention Services [Transferred]	1369
B. Child Abuse and Neglect Primary Prevention Programs [Trans- ferred]	1370
C. Nurse-Family Partnership Competitive Grant Program [Trans- ferred]	1371
D. Evidence-Based Programs and Practices [Transferred]	1372
Chapter 266. Medical Care and Educational Services for Children in Conservatorship of Department of Family and Protec- tive Services	1373

TITLE 6: Civil Procedure

Chapter 301. Discovery Procedures for Civil Actions	1384
A. General Provisions	1384
B. Request for Disclosure	1384
C. Discovery Regarding Testifying Expert Witnesses	1386

Texas Constitution of 1876

Article 1. Bill of Rights	1389
Article 16. General Provisions	1392

Texas Government Code

TITLE 2: JUDICIAL BRANCH

Subtitle A. Courts

Chapter 22. Appellate Courts 1411

Subtitle F. Court Administration

Chapter 72. Office of Court Administration 1413

Texas Human Resources Code

TITLE 2: HUMAN SERVICES AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES IN GENERAL

Subtitle E. Services for Families

Chapter 51A. Notice to Victims of Family Violence, Stalking, Harassment, or Terroristic Threat 1417

TITLE 9: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Chapter 137. Family Support Services 1419

A. Family Support Services 1420

B. Family Support Services Programs for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention 1421

C. Nurse–Family Partnership Competitive Grant Program 1423

D. Services for At-Risk Youth 1426

E. Preventive Services for Veterans and Military Families..... 1427

F. Texas Home Visiting Program 1427

GENERAL INDEX I–1

