

**Survey of the Texas Appellate Courts - Seventh District Court of Appeals (Amarillo)**

**The Basics**

1. Court's Address: Seventh Court of Appeals, 501 South Fillmore, Suite 2-A, Amarillo, Texas 79101-2449
2. Telephone number: Phone: (806) 342-2650, Fax: (806) 342-2675
3. Website address: <http://www.7thcoa.courts.state.tx.us>
4. Names of Justices: Brian Quinn (C.J.), James T. Campbell, Mackey K. Hancock, and Pat A. Pirtle
5. Court Clerk: Peggy Culp
6. Local Rules: Court has no local rules at this time.

**The Ins and Outs**

<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<b>WHAT AND HOW TO FILE</b>	<b>HOW HANDLED</b>	<b>COURT'S PARTICULAR PRACTICES</b>	<b>SPECIAL NOTES</b>
<b>Motions</b>	Original plus 2 copies. TRAP 9.3(a)(1)(B).	Typically, non-dispositive motions are decided by individual justices who may confer with other members of the panel depending on the motion at issue. Court follows TRAP rules for briefs.	The disposition process remains the same regardless of whether the motion is contested or agreed.  Court follows TRAP rules for briefs.	
<b>Briefs</b>	Original plus 5 copies. TRAP 9.3(a)(1)(C).	Court follows TRAP rules for briefs.		A petition or brief should have durable front and back covers, which shall not be plastic or black, red or dark blue. TRAP 9.4(f).
<b>Case Assignment</b>		Justices are assigned to panels based on monthly rotation.	Panel members will be shown on the letter from the clerk's office informing the parties of the date and time for oral argument. If submitted on the briefs, panel members will be identified at the time the opinion is issued.	
<b>Oral Argument</b>	Request oral argument on cover of the brief. TRAP 39.7.	Court generally grants 20 minutes per side; 5 minute rebuttal for appellant.	The court may decide a case w/o oral argument if argument would not significantly aid the court in determining the legal and factual issues presented in the appeal. TRAP 39.8. If only one side requests oral argument, the party requesting argument will be permitted to present that argument.	

PROCEDURE	WHAT AND HOW TO FILE	HOW HANDLED	COURT'S PARTICULAR PRACTICES	SPECIAL NOTES
Opinions				Release of opinions is not limited to a particular day.
Motions for Rehearing	Original plus 2 copies. TRAP 9.3.			
Original Proceedings	Original plus 3 copies. TRAP 9.3.		The court may decide a case w/o oral argument if argument would not significantly aid the court in determining the legal and factual issues presented in the petition.	

### Technology

1. Court subscribes to both Westlaw and Lexis.
2. Court prefers parallel citations to United States Supreme Court cases.
3. Court has received diskettes from some court reporters with copies of the reporter's record. This can be helpful with voluminous records.
4. Court does not prefer that parties provide copies of out of state cases if they are available on Lexis or Westlaw.
5. Court does not accept filing by fax.
6. Court does not accept electronic filings.
7. The only form of electronic distribution is the case mail service available on the court's web site.
8. Court ordinarily does not record oral arguments, but is able to do so.

### Appellate Mediation

1. Court does not have a structured program for appellate mediation. Requests for abatement or continuance so mediation can take place are generally granted.

### Fees

1. Appeal: \$125
2. Original Proceeding: \$75
3. Motions: \$10
4. Response to Motion: \$10
5. The court's website has a current list of filing fees.

### Miscellaneous

1. The Court has found that an electronic copy of the clerk's record, reporter's record and briefs facilitate disposition of the appeal. Thus, it is requested (but not required) that the party responsible for filing the respective documents also provide the court with an electronic copy on a CD with a searchable PDF format if possible.
2. For more information refer to the court website: <http://www.7thcoa.courts.state.tx.us>.