

Order Regarding Payment of Certain Fees in Civil Commitment Cases



WHEREAS, Section 571.018, Texas Government Code, provides for the payment of costs for hearings or proceedings under the Texas Mental Health Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 571.018(h), Texas Government Code, provides that a county may not pay any costs for a patient committed to a private mental hospital unless a public facility is not available and the commissioners court of the county authorizes the payment; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioners Court finds that public facilities are routinely not available to provide involuntary court-ordered mental health services to individuals in need of such treatment;

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Williamson County Commissioners Court hereby authorizes payment by the County of attorney ad litem fees assessed in proceedings under the Texas Mental Health Code. Further, as the Sheriff has discontinued any mental process fees for services the Williamson County Sheriff's Office provides in these cases, such fees should no longer be collected from the parties. All other court costs and fees shall continue to be collected by the Williamson County Clerk from the parties as required or authorized by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Williamson County Commissioners Court to be effective as of this 8th day of February, 2022 (Effective Date).

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

By:

Bill Gravell, Jr.
Williamson County Judge