

Wednesday, June 07, 2017

TO: Hon Dan A. Gattis  
Hon Lisa Birkman  
Hon Cynthia Long  
Hon Valerie Covey  
Hon Ron Morrison

From: Dain Johnson, JP 1

RE: Phase One of Two for Fail to Attend Program

Dear Judge, if it pleases the Court,

Today, I am requesting the Commissioners Court of Williamson County allow me the option of adding a \$5.00 fee to each criminal case filed in my court for the purpose of hiring a case manager to help assist with a truancy program.

The authority to charge the fee is found in the Gov Code, and the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures whereby the Commissioners' Court may create a juvenile case manager fund and may require any defendant convicted of a fine-only misdemeanor offense in a justice court to pay a juvenile case manager fee not to exceed \$5.00 as a cost of court.

At the current rate the following cases could generate the following revenue. (See Chart One)

Year	J-09	F-09	M-09	A-09	M-09	J-09
Referrals	376	477	463	465	462	452
AT \$2.00	\$752.00	\$954.00	\$926.00	\$930.00	\$924.00	\$904.00
AT \$5.00	\$1,880.00	\$2,385.00	\$2,315.00	\$2,325.00	\$2,310.00	\$2,260.00

The Justice Court for Precinct One had 255 fail to attend school cases filed in 2008-09. The service area includes Round Rock ISD, and specifically, takes in Round Rock High School, McNeil High School, and Stony Point High School. This also includes all the feeder school. The Court along with the City

of Round Rock, Round Rock ISD, and the LifeSteps has developed a program to help assist with the truancy cases.

The court cost for the case manager would be placed in the case manager line item and would help pay for a case manager to assist with fail to attend school case as defined by Texas Education Code 25.093 and 25.094. The case manager would be an employee of the Juvenile Service Department.

At this time, Phase II included a Memorandum of understanding between Williamson County, the City of Round Rock, Round Rock Independent School System, and Lifesteps, has not been completed. No action is being requested from the court at this time.