



HON. RANDY M. CLAPP

DISTRICT JUDGE

329TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HISTORIC WHARTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

100 S. FULTON, SUITE 200

WHARTON, TEXAS 77488

Cassie Ritter, C.C.M.

Court Administrator

Sherri Johnson, C.S.R.

Court Reporter

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December 13, 2017

Ms. Debra Stewart, CPA, CIGA
Fiscal Monitor

Mr. Joel Lieurance
Policy Monitor

Policy Monitoring Issues:

County Response for Finding One:

Wharton County Action Plan:

Magistrates advise all inmates at the time of magistration of their right to counsel. I have spoken with Lieutenant Roddy Rodriguez with the Wharton County Sheriff's Office and he has informed me that at the time of magistration, the magistrate informs the inmate on camera that if the inmate needs help the Wharton County Sheriff's Office will assist them. His staff is there to assist the inmates with the paperwork.

Contact Person: Cassie Ritter

County Response for Finding Two:

Wharton County Action Plan:

All requests for counsel received will be ruled upon within the guidelines of the Wharton County Indigence Defense Plan. This includes misdemeanors and felony cases.

Contact Person: Cassie Ritter

County Response for Finding Three:

Wharton County Action Plan:

All requests received for misdemeanors are ruled upon promptly upon receipt by the Indigent Defense Coordinator. I will make sure that these requests are forwarded to the County Judge's office so that they are aware of the approval or denial of same. As to the defendant's waiver of the right to retain counsel, the County Judge's office has informed me that they have implemented paperwork to ensure that the waiver includes the language of Article 1.051(g).

Contact Person: Cassie Ritter

Fiscal Monitoring Issues:

County Response for Finding One:

Wharton County Action Plan:

Invoices are being monitored more closely prior to the judge signing. The judge will not sign the attorney fee voucher until it has been properly completed and signed by counsel.

Contact Person: Cassie Ritter

Sincerely,



Cassie Ritter,
Court Administrator
Indigent Defense Coordinator

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cc: Hon. Randy M. Clapp
cc: Hon. Philip Spenrath
cc: Trey Maffett, Wharton County Attorney
cc: Barbara A. Starling
cc: Shannon Srubar, Wharton County Sheriff
cc: The Honorable Jeanette Krenek, JP, Pct. 1
cc: The Honorable Cynthia Kubicek, JP, Pct 2
cc: The Honorable Dennis Korenek, JP, Pct 3
cc: The Honorable Timmy Drapela, JP, Pct 4
cc: Lt. Roddy Rodriguez
cc: Captain Jason Mican