

Municipal Court

The Municipal Court is the Judicial Branch of City government.

More people come into personal contact with Municipal Courts than all other courts combined in the State of Texas. Whether they are Jurors, Witnesses or Defendants, the Public's impression of the entire judicial system is based largely on their experience in municipal court.

The Court has original and exclusive jurisdiction over violations of City ordinances.

Within the City limits, the Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the justice courts over Class C misdemeanors where the punishment, upon conviction, is punishable only by the imposition of a fine.

Class C misdemeanors are criminal offenses, traffic violations, State code, City ordinances, juvenile and parking.

Municipal Court also has limited civil jurisdiction in cases which involve owners of dangerous dogs.



Municipal Court judges preside over jury and bench trials, show cause hearings, juvenile, mental health hearings, code enforcement, stolen property dispositions and bond revocations.

All Municipal Court judges are Magistrates

- **Issue Arrest Warrants on felony and higher misdemeanor offenses, Search Warrants, and Emergency Orders of Protection.**
- **Issue Orders to Seize Cruelly Treated Animals and conduct hearings to determine the Disposition of Cruelly Treated Animals.**
- **Set Bonds and admonish accused on rights at jail.**



Current Operations

- Texas Supreme Court's Fortieth Emergency Order permits all courts to continue conducting proceedings remotely.
- Teen Court
- Requests for driver safety course, deferred dispositions, hearings and payment plans are processed via email and USPS mail as alternatives to in-person contacts.
- "Paperless" Project
- Collections Update

