Expunctions

Expunctions Procedures in Cooke County

In Cooke County, any one of our two elected justices of the peace officials may magistrate and normally take turns doing so. Therefore, unless the person seeking the expunction was arrested by an agency other than the Cooke County Sheriff's Office, you must include the correct magistrate in your application and order of expunction to ensure the person's arrest file is completely expunged.

The filing fee is \$350.00 + \$25.00 per entity that needs notification + \$1.00 per copied page. If you provide an email address for each entity there is only a filing fee of \$350.00

The following is a list of local agencies normally involved in the expunction process in Cooke County. (Art. 55A.253) Please include the mailing <u>and email address</u> of each agency in your petition. Duplicate agencies will not be notified. <u>No "issue expunction-certified mail" fee is required if you include the agency's email addresses</u> in the petition and order.

This list is not all-inclusive. You should include any outside agency that has published your information concerning the charge/arrest. For each agency you include **that does not have an email address, you must pay \$25 + \$1.00 per page copied of the Petition, Notice of Hearing and Order of Expunction that is mailed for the "issue expunction-certified mail" fee, which includes mailing of the notice and order. (Art. 55A.254)**

(Example only): Petition is 12 pages, and the Notice of Hearing is 1 page. Then you have 10 entities to give notice too and you have not provided an email address. You would pay \$25.00 + \$13(copies) X 10 entities= \$380.00 for the first round of certified mail then when the order is signed, we send another round of certified mail for the Order. If the order is 5 pages, then it would be \$50.00 to send them. For a grant total of \$430.00 to send the required notice and order. The total filing fees would be \$350.00+\$430.00= \$780.00.

Cooke County Agencies:

- Cooke County District Clerk's Office
 101 S. Dixon St. Room 207 Gainesville, Texas 76240
 districtclerk@co.cooke.tx.us
- Cooke County District Attorney's Office
 101 S. Dixon St. Room 207 Gainesville, Texas 76240 cookeda@co.cooke.tx.us

- Cooke County Sheriff's Office
 300 CR 451 Gainesville, Texas 76240
 records@co.cooke.tx.us
- Cooke County Clerk's Office
 101 S. Dixon St. Gainesville, Texas 76240
 countyclerk@co.cooke.tx.us
- Cooke County Attorney's Office
 101 S. Dixon St. Gainesville, Texas 76240
 countyattorney@co.cooke.tx.us
- Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace, Jody Henry
 320 County Road 451 Gainesville, Texas 76240
 Justice1@co.cooke.tx.us
- 7. Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace, Carroll Johnson 112 S. Dixon St. Gainesville, Texas 76240 Justice2@co.cooke.tx.us

Municipalities:

Gainesville Police Department 201 Santa Fe St. Gainesville, Texas 76240 gainesvillemunicipalcourt@gvps.org

Lindsay Police Department P.O. Box 153 Lindsay, Texas 76250 lpd@ntin.net

Muenster Police Department P.O. Box 208 Muenster, Texas 76252 muenstercourt@ntin.net

Oak Ridge Police Department 129 Oak Ridge Dr. Gainesville, Texas 76240 bdixon@townofoakridge.com

Valley View Police Department P.O. Box 268 Valley View, Texas 76272 municipalcourt@cityofvv.com

State agencies:

Texas Department of Public Safety, Criminal Records Service (they report to federal agencies)

P.O. Box 4143, Austin, TX 78765-4143 expunctions@dps.texas.gov

Office of Court Administration (OCA) Legal Division (final order only) 205 W. 14th St. Suite 600, Austin, TX 78701 ocaexpunctions@txcourt.gov

This list is required to be published and maintained by the district clerk of the county pursuant to Senate Bill 1667, passed during the 89th legislative session, effective 09/01/2025.

Self-Represented Litigants

An expunction order obliterates an arrest from the person's criminal history record and all files associated with the arrest and charge. There are certain conditions that must be met to be eligible for an expunction. For this information and more, you are encouraged to consult with an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, please visit the following websites for guidance and forms:

Texas Law Help
Texas Courts
State Bar of Texas