This research guide contains information and resources related to requesting adoption records in Texas. For information of same-sex adoption, please see a separate handout. The resources listed below are not exhaustive, and there may be additional resources not included.

### Statutes & Codes

**Texas Family Code / Texas Legislature**
- www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov
  - Ch. 107 – Special Appointment, Child Custody Evaluations, and Adoption Evaluations
  - Ch. 162 – Adoption

**Vernon’s Texas Codes Annotated** – Family Code
Location: 2 copies in stacks, (please inquire at reference desk)
- Ch. 107 Special Appointments, Child Custody Evaluations, and Adoption Evaluations
- Ch. 162 Adoption
  - § 107.151-107.163 Adoption Evaluations
  - § 162.006 Access to Health, Social, Educational, and Genetic History Report
  - § 162.0062 Access to Information, pp.821-822

**Texas Family Law Practice Manual KFT 1294 T4S7**
- Vol. 4, Ch. 50, "Termination"
- Vol. 4, Ch. 51, "Adoption of Child"
- Vol. 4, Ch. 52, "Combined Termination and Adoption of Stepchild"
- Vol. 4, Ch. 60, "Adoption of Adult"

- Chapters 19 and 20

**Texas Practice Guide - Family Law. KFT1294 .G33**
- Vol. 1, Ch. 10, "Parent-Child Relationship" – Part IV; “Termination of Parental Rights” and Part V; “Adoption.”

**Texas Family Law: Practice and Procedure. 2d ed. KFT1294 .F35**


### Secondary Resources in Print

**Texas Family Code Plus KFT 1294 03B4**
- Chapter 107 Special Appointments, Child Custody and Adoption Evaluations
  - § 107.151-107.163 Adoption Evaluations
- Chapter 162 Adoption
  - § 162.006 Access to Health, Social, Educational, and Genetic History Report; Retention

### CLE Materials

**Advanced Family Law Course KFT 1294.S83**
- 2020 Ch. 42: Adoption for Non-Adoption Attorneys
- 2020 Ch. 49 Termination Case Law Update
• 2019 Ch. 11: Supreme Court of Texas Update, Section G. Termination of Parental Rights, p. 22-23
• 2019 Ch. 27.2: UCCJEA, UIFSA, and UPA Made Easy: UPA
• 2019 Ch. 47: Termination Case Law Update
• 2018 Ch. 3: Supreme Court of Texas Update, Section H. Termination of Parental Rights, p. 30-31

Online Resources

• Texas Department of State Health Services – Central Adoption Registry
• Texas Department of State Health Services Requesting Sealed Adoption Records (texas.gov)
• Texas Law Help article – Accessing Adoption Records in Texas
• Texas Department of State Health Services – Closed Child-Placing Agencies
• Texas Department of State Health Services – Adoption Forms
  https://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/forms.aspx#adopt.
• Gladney Center for Adoption – Texas Voluntary Adoption Registry
  https://adoptionsbygladney.com/contact/texas-voluntary-registry.
• Find My Family – Texas Adoption Reunion Registry
  https://www.findmyfamily.org/Texas-Reunion-Registry/page-2/.
• Texas State Law Library Research Guide – Adoption & Termination
• Adoptee Rights Law Center
  https://adopteerightslaw.com/.

Legal Assistance

Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)
- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up
  https://www.tarrantbar.org/
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up
  https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline

Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: 817-336-4101 ($20 for the first 30 minutes)