

Milam County Judge

David L. Barkemeyer
102 South Fannin Ave.
Cameron, Texas 76520



Phone 254-697-7000
Fax 254-697-7002
info@milamcounty.net

Texas Indigent Defense Commission
209 W. 14th St, Room 202
Austin, Tx 78701

June 13, 2018

ATTENTION: Mr. Joel Lieurance, Senior Policy Analyst

Milam County Plan of Action based on findings of Texas Indigent Defense Commission, April 2018 review

Based on the finding 1 and recommendation under requirement 2, the Court will make a ruling on indigence based solely on the financial standards and if the Defendant withdraws the request prior to a ruling on the request, that withdrawal shall be noted and no ruling on indigence will be made.

Based on the finding 2 and recommendation under requirement 4, the Court will generally rule on each request promptly as it arrives instead of waiting until the date of arraignment. The Court will make every effort to rule on all requests within 3 days of receiving the request in the Court's file. At the time a request is made, a defendant is provided with a letter (see attached) that explains the County Judge will review their request with them and potentially ask additional questions regarding the defendant's financial status pursuant to the Milam County Indigent Defense Plan. If the defendant bonds out they are still expected to appear on the date provided in the letter. If the defendant does not appear on the date provided, the request remains in the court's file until arraignment as explained in the letter.

Based on the finding 3 and recommendation under requirement 4, the arraignment form letter will be amended to remove the third paragraph entirely and change the wording in paragraph 2 removing "Unless you have requested a court appointed attorney, you may contact the County Attorney's office @ (254-697-7013) to discuss your case, however, this is not required." The paragraph will be replaced with the statement "If you have not already hired an attorney by this setting, you will have the opportunity to request a court appointed attorney".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Barkemeyer".

David L. Barkemeyer
Milam County Judge

CC: John Youngblood, District Judge
Bill Torrey, Milam County District Attorney
Jodi Morgan, Milam County Clerk
Danica Lara, Milam County Auditor

Milam County Constitutional Court

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This notice to be provided to any Defendants who file a request for court appointed counsel.

You have requested court appointed counsel. The County Judge will be here at 8:30 a.m. on this coming Thursday, _____ to review your request with you. Be prepared to
(magistrate to fill in date)

respond to questions regarding your financial status. If possible, provide evidence supporting the financial information that you have provided on the form.

If you post bail and are released on bond before this time, please be present at 8:30 a.m. on this date in the Justice of the Peace Courtroom in this building, which is the Milam County Law Enforcement Center, and the County Judge will be here to meet with you to review and act on your request.

If you are unable to appear at this time your request will be considered by the judge at the time that you appear in court for arraignment. You should also be prepared to respond to questions regarding your financial status and provide evidence to support the financial information that you have provided on the form.