

SUBCHAPTER E. SUITS BROUGHT IN JUSTICE COURT

Sec. 15.081. APPLICATION. This subchapter applies only to suits brought in a justice court.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.082. VENUE: GENERAL RULE. Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter or by any other law, a suit in justice court shall be brought in the county and precinct in which one or more defendants reside.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.0821. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR TRANSFER. The justices of the peace in each county shall, by majority vote, adopt local rules of administration regarding the transfer of a pending case from one precinct to a different precinct.

Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., 1st C.S., Ch. 3 (H.B. [79](#)), Sec. 5.04, eff. January 1, 2012.

Sec. 15.083. RESIDENCE OF A SINGLE MAN. A single man's residence is where he boards.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.084. FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER. A suit for forcible entry and detainer shall be brought in the precinct in which all or part of the premises is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.085. EXECUTOR; ADMINISTRATOR; GUARDIAN. A suit against an executor, an administrator, or a guardian shall be brought in the county in which the administration or

guardianship is pending and in the precinct in which the county seat is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.086. COUNTIES. A suit against a county shall be brought in the precinct in which the county seat of that county is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.087. OPTION: SUIT IN DEFENDANT'S COUNTY OF RESIDENCE. A suit to which a permissive venue section of this subchapter applies may be brought and maintained either in the county provided for by that section or in the county in which the defendant resides.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.088. NONRESIDENT; RESIDENCE UNKNOWN. A suit against a nonresident of this state or against a person whose residence is unknown may be brought in the county and precinct in which the plaintiff resides.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.089. TRANSIENT PERSON. A suit against a transient person may be brought in any county and precinct in which the transient person is found.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.090. PERSONAL PROPERTY. A suit to recover personal property may be brought in the county and precinct in which the property is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.091. RENTS. A suit to recover rents may be brought in the county and precinct in which all or part of the rented premises is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.092. CONTRACT. (a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, a suit on a written contract that promises performance at a particular place may be brought in the county and precinct in which the contract was to be performed.

(b) A suit on an oral or written contract for labor actually performed may be brought in the county and precinct in which the labor was performed.

(c) A suit by a creditor on a contract for goods, services, or loans intended primarily for personal, family, household, or agricultural use may be brought only in the county and precinct in which the contract was signed or in which the defendant resides.

(d) A contract described by Subsection (c) may not waive the venue provided by that subsection.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.093. TORTS. A tort suit for damages may be brought in the county and precinct in which the injury was inflicted.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.094. CORPORATION; ASSOCIATION; JOINT-STOCK COMPANY. A suit against a private corporation, association, or joint-stock company may be brought in the county and precinct in which:

- (1) all or part of the cause of action arose;

(2) the corporation, association, or company has an agency or representative; or

(3) the principal office of the corporation, association, or company is located.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.095. RAILROAD COMPANIES; CARRIERS. A suit against a railroad company, a canal company, or the owners of a line of transportation vehicles for injury to a person or property on the railroad, canal, or line of vehicles or for liability as a carrier may be brought in a precinct through which that railroad, canal, or line of vehicles passes or in a precinct in which the route of that railroad, canal, or vehicle begins or ends.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.096. STEAMBOAT OR OTHER VESSEL. A suit against the owner of a steamboat or other vessel may be brought in the county or precinct in which:

- (1) the steamboat or vessel may be found;
- (2) the cause of action arose; or
- (3) the liability accrued or was contracted.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.097. INSURANCE COMPANIES. (a) A suit against a fire, marine, or inland marine insurance company may be brought in the county and precinct in which all or part of the insured property was located.

(b) A suit against an accident and life insurance company or association may be brought in the county and precinct in which one or more of the insured persons resided when the injury or death occurred.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.098. PLEADING REQUIREMENTS. If a suit is brought in a county or precinct in which the defendant does not reside, the citation or pleading must affirmatively show that the suit comes within an exception provided for by this subchapter.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.099. MORE THAN ONE JUSTICE. If there is more than one justice of the peace in a precinct or in an incorporated city or town, suit may be brought before any justice of the peace in that precinct or incorporated city or town.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.

Sec. 15.100. DISQUALIFIED JUSTICE. If the justice in the proper precinct is not qualified to try the suit, suit may be brought before the nearest qualified justice in the county.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 959, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1985.