

# Unincorporated Areas Research Guide

## Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on Tarrant County unincorporated areas. Unincorporated areas are regions that are not governed by local municipalities. In other words, these areas do not have a local government. The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

## Statutes and Codes

Texas Statutes Online [www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov)

### Local Government Code

- Ch. 233 County Regulation of Housing and Other Structures  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LG/htm/LG.233.htm>
- Ch. 240 Miscellaneous Regulatory Authority of Counties  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LG/htm/LG.240.htm>

### Texas Health and Safety Code

- §343.011 Public Nuisance (unincorporated areas)  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.343.htm#343.011>

### Texas Property Code

- Ch. 201 Restrictive Covenants Applicable to Certain Subdivisions  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PR/htm/PR.201.htm>

### Texas Utilities Code

- §181.102 Authority to Install and Maintain Equipment

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/UT/htm/UT.181.htm#181.102>

## Secondary Resources in Print

### Texas Litigation Guide REF KFT 1730 .T4

- Vol. 18, §280.13[iii] Additional Public Nuisances in Unincorporated Areas
- Vol. 18, §280.110[2] Petition for Damages to Land and for Injunctive Relief

### Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated KFT 1230.5

- Govt Vol. 3, Ch. 233
  - § 233.031 Authority Limited to Unincorporated Areas; Conflict with Municipal Authority
  - Subchapter C. Fire Code in Unincorporated Area
  - Subchapter F. Residential Building Code Standards Applicable to Unincorporated Areas of Certain Counties
- Govt Vol. 3, Ch. 235 County Regulation of Matters Relating to Explosives and Weapons
  - § 235.021-235.022 Firearms
  - § 235.041-235.042 Bows and Arrows
- Govt Vol. 3, Ch. 240 Miscellaneous Regulatory Authority of Counties
  - § 240.032 County Regulatory Authority; Adoption of Orders
  - §240.0325 Exception for Certain Outdoor Lighting
  - §240.042 Authority to Regulate Placement of Water Wells
  - § 240.082 Applicability, Communication Facility Structures
  - § 240.083 Authority of County to Regulate
  - § 240.085 Filing Requirements Regarding Construction

- § 240.909 Regulation of Tree Cutting in Certain Counties
- § 240.910 Regulation of Litter and Mosquito Control in Certain Counties

### **Texas Jur KFT 1265 .T48**

- Vol. 52, Ch. 1 Counties and Municipalities in General

### **Owning Your Own Piece of Texas: Key Laws Landowners Need to Know REF KFT 1310 L37**

## **Online Resources**

Guidelines for Development in the Unincorporated Areas of Tarrant County (Transportation Dept.)

<https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/content/dam/main/transportation/Documents/Guidelines%20for%20Development%20in%20Unincorporated%20areas%20of%20Tarrant%20County.pdf>

Residential Building Codes (TSLL)

<https://www.sll.texas.gov/law-legislation/texas/building-codes/residential-building-codes/>

Building Codes (TSLL)

<https://www.sll.texas.gov/law-legislation/texas/building-codes/>

## **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)**