



# The Supreme Court of Texas

CHIEF JUSTICE  
JAMES D. BLACKLOCK

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April 9, 2026

Chief Justice Tracy E. Christopher  
Chair, Supreme Court Advisory Committee  
14th Court of Appeals  
301 Fannin, Room 245  
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: Referral of Rules Issues

Dear Chief Justice Christopher:

The Supreme Court asks the Committee to study and make recommendations on the following matters.

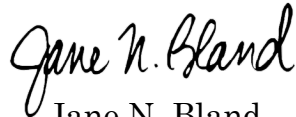
**Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 53.7.** Rule 53.7(c) provides that, if a party timely files a petition for review under Rule 53.7(a), “any other party required to file a petition may do so within 45 days after the last timely motion for rehearing or en banc reconsideration is overruled or within 30 days after any preceding petition is filed, whichever is later.” Three types of petitions are frequently filed under Rule 53.7(c): (1) petitions filed by parties on the same side as the initial petitioner; (2) petitions filed by opposing parties who want to alter the court of appeals’ judgment independently of whether the Court considers the initial petition; and (3) conditional petitions filed by opposing parties who only want to alter the judgment if the Court considers the initial petition. The Committee should study whether Rule 53.7 should be amended to require that petition types (1) and (2) be filed by the deadline in Rule 53.7(a). The Committee should also study whether to tie the deadline for petition type (3) to the response, given that response deadlines are now not set until a response is ordered. The Committee should draft any recommended amendments and be prepared to discuss at the June 5, 2026, meeting.

**Finality of Judgment.** The Committee should study and draft any recommended rule amendments that would provide certainty about when a judgment is final and appealable.

**Release of Judgment Kit.** On March 12, 2026, the Landlord-Tenant Forms Task Force submitted a proposed kit of forms to assist tenants in securing a release of judgment. The Committee should review and make recommendations.

As always, the Court is grateful for the Committee's counsel and your leadership.

Sincerely,

  
Jane N. Bland  
Justice

Attachments

cc: Hon. Jimmy Blacklock, Chief Justice  
Hon. Evan Young, Deputy Liaison, Supreme Court Advisory Committee  
Marcy Hogan Greer, Vice-Chair, Supreme Court Advisory Committee  
Jackie Daumerie, Rules Attorney

**FAQs and INSTRUCTIONS**  
**How to Get Released from a Judgment Against You**  
Section 52.005 of the Texas Property Code and  
Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code

**For 1) Release of Judgment by Creditor Form, 2) Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor Form, 3) Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit form, 4) Request for Hearing and Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit form, 5) Release of Judgment by Court Form**

*These instructions do not give legal advice and are not a substitute for the advice of a lawyer.*

**Use These Forms If:**

- You want to ensure that a debt you were ordered to pay by a court (a judgment debt) does not negatively affect your credit or ability to rent an apartment or get a loan.
- You can pay off a judgment against you and the person/entity with the judgment against you agrees to sign a release of the judgment, or
- You can pay off a judgment against you but you cannot find the person/entity to make the payment, or
- You can pay off a judgment against you but the person/entity with the judgment against you will not accept the money to pay off the judgment or wants more money than the amount you owe, or
- You paid off the judgment against you but the person/entity that accepted the money refuses to sign a release of judgment.

**Do Not Use These Forms If:**

- You are not able to pay off the judgment against you, or
- You have not already paid off the judgment against you.

**General Instructions:** Read these Frequently Asked Questions and the instructions for completing the forms. References to Rules are to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, available at <http://www.txCourts.gov/rules-forms/rules-standards/>.

I. **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Releasing Judgments:**

1. **What is a release of judgment?**

A release of judgment is a legal document filed with the court stating that a person who has paid the entire judgment amount, including any fees and interest, owed to the other party, and has been released from the debt.

For example: A court ordered you to pay \$2,500 in unpaid rent, court fees, and accrued interest to your landlord. You pay the entire amount to the landlord, and the landlord signs a

release of judgment confirming that you no longer owe that amount. You file the signed release of judgment with the court to officially show you have paid off that debt.

2. Why should I get a release of judgment?

Unless you get a release of judgment, the debt will still show up on your credit report as unpaid and negatively affect your ability to rent apartments, get loans, and get new credit, even if you've paid it off. A signed release of judgment shows that you no longer owe the judgment, and your credit report should show that it no longer needs to be paid. If your credit report continues to show the debt after you get the release of judgment, send a copy of the release of judgment to the credit reporting agency. The agency must update your credit report to show that the debt has been paid and released.

3. How do I get a release of judgment?

The easiest way to get a release of judgment is to pay the judgment owed and have the creditor sign a release of judgment.

- You can complete the Release of Judgment by Creditor form in this packet and ask the creditor to sign it. Most creditors will sign them. See Section II below for instructions on completing this *Release of Judgment by Creditor* form.
- After the judgment creditor or their agent notarizes or signs the *Release of Judgment by Creditor* under penalty of perjury, bring the original and a copy to the court where the judgment was issued. File the original *Release of Judgment by Creditor*, ask the clerk to file-stamp the copy, and keep it for your records.
- See FAQ 8 for where to send a copy of the release of judgment.

If you've paid the judgment in full but the creditor refuses to sign a release, or you don't know where the creditor is, see FAQs 5 and 6.

If you want to pay the judgment in full now, and

- a. You believe the creditor will sign a release of judgment, see FAQ 4;
- b. You don't know where the creditor is located, see FAQs 5 and 6; or
- c. The creditor refuses to sign a release when you make the final payment, see FAQs 5, 6, and 7; or
- d. The creditor refuses to accept your payment, see FAQ 5, 6, and 7.

4. I want to pay the judgment in full and get the creditor to sign a release of judgment. What do I do? Texas Property Code, Section 52.005.

- Get a copy of the judgment from the court that issued it, so you know exactly how much is owed, which includes the judgment amount and may include court costs and interest owed up to the date you pay the debt.

- Ask the person/entity that you owe the judgment to (also known as a judgment creditor) or their agent or attorney, to sign the *Release of Judgment by Creditor* form in this packet stating that the judgment has been paid in full.
- When you make the payment, make sure to specify that the payment is for the judgment owed, not for charges not listed in the judgment.
- After the judgment creditor or their agent notarizes or signs the *Release of Judgment by Creditor* under penalty of perjury, bring the original and a copy to the court where the judgment was issued.
- File the original *Release of Judgment by Creditor*, ask the clerk to file-stamp the copy, and keep it for your records.

See Section II below for instructions on completing this *Release of Judgment by Creditor* form.

5. What do I do first if the creditor refuses to sign a release, refuses to accept my payment, or I don't know where they are? Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Section 31.008.

- Get a copy of the judgment from the Court that issued it, so you know exactly how much is owed.
- Send a letter to the person/entity with the judgment against you, also known as the judgment creditor, to notify them that you have paid the judgment or you want to pay the judgment in full. If you have it, include information on the date payment was made, how much was paid on each date, and who you paid. You can use the *Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor* form in this packet if you wish. You must send the letter by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested to each of the following addresses:
  - The judgment creditor's last known address;
  - The address listed in the judgment creditor's pleadings or other court records **if it is different than the last known address**;
  - The address of the judgment creditor's last attorney, **if any**, listed in the creditor's pleadings or other court records; and
  - The address of the judgment creditor's last attorney, **if any**, listed in the State Bar of Texas's records ([www.texasbar.com](http://www.texasbar.com) or (800) 204-2222), **if that address is different from the addresses listed in the creditor's pleadings or other Court records**.
- Wait 15 days from the day you mail the *Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor* form.
  - If the judgment creditor responds, agrees to accept the money in payment for the judgment, and signs the *Release of Judgment by Creditor* form, you can file that with the court. See FAQ 3.
  - If the judgment creditor does not respond, go to FAQ 6.
  - If the judgment creditor either refuses to accept payment or accepts payment and refuses to sign a release, go to FAQ 7.

6. I sent the required notice(s) to the judgment creditor, but they did not respond in 15 days.  
What do I do now to get a release of judgment? Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Section 31.008.

If the creditor has not responded on or before the 15th day after you sent the notices in FAQ 5, you will need to file an affidavit and the documents listed below in the court where the judgment was issued.

You can use the *Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit* form in this packet for your affidavit, if you wish. In your affidavit, state the following:

- a. You sent a letter by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the required addresses listed in FAQ 5 notifying the judgment creditor that you have paid or want to pay the judgment in full. See the *Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor* form;
- b. The judgment creditor did not respond on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day after you sent the notice,
- c. You do not know another location where the judgment creditor can be reached, and
- d. You want to be released from the judgment.

Along with your affidavit, you will need the following attachments:

- The original judgment (if you have it, not required),
- A copy or copies of the letters you sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, as indicated in FAQ 5 (if you have them, not required), and
- A proposed release of judgment, which should include the cause number, the court, the parties, the date of judgment, the amount of judgment, the amount paid into the Court, and the date of the release. This document is required. You can use the *Release of Judgment by Court* form in this packet for this purpose, if you wish.

Bring your original signed request for release of judgment affidavit and all attachments, and a copy of each, to the court where the judgment was issued. File the original and attachments. Ask the clerk to file-stamp the copies and keep them for your records.

If you have not yet paid the judgment in full, you will need to pay the judgment into the court registry. Ask the court how you can do this.

If you have already paid the judgment in full to the creditor or have paid the judgment amount into the court registry, the court should decide if it can issue a release of judgment on its own or if it will require a hearing. Make sure to ask what that court's process is. If the court requires a hearing, you should:

- Go to the hearing,
- Ask the judge for the release of judgment,
- Provide the court with copies of the notification letters you sent to the creditor and the judgment creditor did not respond on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day after you mailed them,

- Provide proof of payment to the judgment creditor, including any payment to the court registry,
- Provide any other relevant evidence, and
- Make sure to ask the court when you will get a signed copy of the Release of Judgment, which serves as proof that you paid the judgment and is important to keep for your records.

7. I sent the required notice(s) to the judgment creditor, but they refuse to sign a release of judgment after I've paid the debt in full, or they won't accept my payment. What do I do?  
Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Section 31.008.

If the judgment creditor either refuses to accept your payment or refuses to sign a release of judgment, and you sent the notices required in FAQ 5, you should file a request for a hearing and an affidavit with the court where the judgment was issued, stating that:

- a. You sent the required letter notices to the judgment creditor, like the *Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor* form,
- b. The judgment creditor was not responsive to the notice because they refused to accept your payment, or accepted your payment and refused to sign a release of judgment, and
- c. State which of these three situations applies to you:
  - i) You do not know the location of the judgment creditor, or
  - ii) you do know the location of the judgment creditor, but they refused to accept your payment, or
  - iii) the creditor accepted your payment and refused to sign a release of judgment.

You can use the *Request for Hearing and Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit* form for your affidavit, if you wish. You need to include the following:

- The original judgment (if you have it, not required),
- A copy or copies of the letters you sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, as indicated in FAQ 5 (if you have them, not required), and
- A proposed release of judgment, which should include the cause number, the court, the parties, the date of judgment, the amount of judgment, the amount paid into the Court, and the date of the release. This document is required. You can use the *Release of Judgment by Court* form in this packet for this purpose, if you wish.

Bring your original signed request for release of judgment affidavit and all attachments, and a copy of each, to the court where the judgment was issued. File the original and attachments. Ask the clerk to file-stamp the copies and keep them for your records.

If you have not yet paid the judgment in full, you will need to pay the remaining judgment into the court registry. Ask the court how you can do this.

If you have already paid the judgment in full to the creditor or have paid the judgment amount into the court registry, the court should decide if it can issue a release of judgment on its own or if it requires a hearing. Make sure to ask what that court's process is.

If the court requires a hearing, you should:

- Go to the hearing,
- Ask the judge for the release of judgment,
- Provide the court with copies of the notification letters you sent to the creditor,
- Provide proof of payment to the judgment creditor, and
- Provide any other relevant evidence.

If the court determines that you complied with all the requirements and have paid the judgment in full, the court should sign a release of judgment. You can fill out and submit the *Release of Judgment by Court* form in this packet for the court's consideration. Make sure to ask the court when you will get a signed copy of the Release of Judgment, which serves as proof that you paid the judgment and is important to keep for your records.

8. What do I do with the Release of Judgment once I get it?

- a. Send a copy of the Release of Judgment to anyone who thinks you owe this debt. For example, you may have paid the person you owed, but they sent the debt to a debt collector that is now contacting you for payment. The Release of Judgment releases all amounts in the case, including interest, and you no longer owe any amounts related to that case.
- b. Send a copy of the Release of Judgment to any credit reporting agencies or tenant screening agencies that are listing the judgment.
- c. If an abstract of judgment has been filed in the deed records, record a certified copy of the Release of Judgment in the deed records at the county clerk's office in the county where the judgment was issued and in any county where an abstract of judgment was filed. An abstract of judgment is a document filed in the county clerk's office that gives notice of the judgment. Even if an abstract of judgment has not been filed, it is recommended that you file the Release of Judgment in the deed records of the county where the judgment was issued to avoid a problem with buying or selling real property in the future.

II. Instructions for the Release of Judgment by Creditor form:

Heading:

- *Case Number* – Fill in the Case Number assigned to your case.
- *Name of Plaintiff/Creditor* – Write the name of the Plaintiff/Creditor who filed the case.
- *Name of Defendant/Debtor* – Write your name.
- *Precinct/Court Number* – Write in the number of the justice court precinct or county court.
- *County, Texas* – Write in the name of the county in which the case is located.

1. Fill in the date that the judge signed the judgment.
2. In the signature block, fill in the name of the plaintiff/creditor and their address, phone number and email address, and have the plaintiff/creditor or their agent sign it.
3. Declaration/Affidavit: The plaintiff/creditor needs to check and fill out **ONLY ONE** box.
  - Declaration Box: If the plaintiff/creditor checks and fills out the Declaration box, they will need to list their address and date of birth but will not need to sign the form in front of a notary public. If they do not want to list their address or date of birth for privacy or safety concerns, they will need to take the form and photo identification, and fill out the Notary box in front of a notary public.
  - Notary: If the plaintiff/creditor plans to use a notary public, make sure they do not sign it until a notary can watch them sign the form. If they do sign it beforehand, they will need to complete a new form. They need to remember to bring their photo identification too.

### III. Instructions for *Letter Notice of Judgment to Creditor Form*

1. Fill in all requested addresses for the judgment creditor and the judgment creditor's attorney, as known. Check the appropriate box showing how you mailed the letter. See FAQ 5 for more details.
2. Fill in your name and address.
3. Look at the judgment and use the information on the judgment to complete all the blanks in this section. Some judgments may not specify the amount of court costs or the post-judgment interest rate. If not, do not fill in those blanks.
4. List any additional details that you want the creditor to know. If you need more room, attach another page.

### IV. Instructions for *Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit Form*

#### Heading:

- *Case Number* – Fill in the Case Number assigned to your case.
  - *Name of Plaintiff/Creditor* – Write the name of the Plaintiff/Creditor who filed the case.
  - *Name of Defendant/Debtor* – Write your name.
  - *Precinct/Court Number* – Write in the number of the justice court precinct or county court.
  - *County, Texas* – Write in the name of the county in which the case is located.
2. Fill in your name. Look at the judgment to complete the rest of the blanks in this section. If you have a copy of the judgment, attach a copy of it.
  3. Fill in date that you sent the *Letter Notice of Judgment Creditor* to the judgment creditor and all other requested information, if known. Attach a copy of the letter. See FAQ 5 for details.

4. Make sure that it has been at least 15 days since you sent the Letter Notice of Judgment Creditor to the judgment creditor before you file this Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting affidavit with the court.
5. List any additional details that you want the court to know. If you need more room, attach another page.
6. Find the *Release of Judgment by Court* form in this packet, fill out the header section, and attach a copy for the judge to consider signing.
7. Fill in your name, address, phone number, and email address.
8. Declaration/Affidavit: Check and fill out **ONLY ONE** box.
  - Declaration Box: If you fill out the Declaration box, you will need to list your address and date of birth but will not need to sign the form in front of a notary public. If you do not want to list your address or date of birth for privacy or safety concerns, you will need to take the form and photo identification, and fill out the Notary box in front of a notary public.
  - Notary: If you plan to use a notary public, make sure you do not sign it until a notary can watch you sign the form. If you do sign it beforehand, you will need to complete a new form. Remember to bring your photo identification too.
9. You should have two attachments to this form (the Letter Notice of Judgment Creditor and the Release of Judgment by Court), but if you include a copy of the judgment, you will have three attachments.

V. **Instructions for *Request for Hearing and Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit Form***

Heading:

- *Case Number* – Fill in the Case Number assigned to your case.
  - *Name of Plaintiff/Creditor* – Write the name of the Plaintiff/Creditor who filed the case.
  - *Name of Defendant/Debtor* – Write your name.
  - *Precinct/Court Number* – Write in the number of the justice court precinct or county court.
  - *County, Texas* – Write in the name of the county in which the case is located.
1. Fill in your name. Look at the judgment to complete the rest of the blanks in this section. If you have a copy of the judgment, attach a copy of it.
  2. Check the box that applies to your situation.
  3. The section asks the court to set a hearing. You need to contact the court to set up a hearing date.
  4. Fill in the date that you sent the *Letter Notice of Judgment Creditor* to the judgment creditor and all other requested information, if known. Attach a copy of the letter. See FAQ 5 for details.

5. List any additional details that you want the court to know. If you need more room, attach another page.
6. Fill out the header section of the *Release of Judgment by Court* form and attach a copy.
7. Fill in your name, address, phone number, and email address.
8. Declaration/Affidavit: Check and fill out **ONLY ONE** box.
  - Declaration Box: If you fill out the Declaration box, you will need to list your address and date of birth but will not need to sign the form in front of a notary public. If you do not want to list your address or date of birth for privacy or safety concerns, you will need to take the form and photo identification, and fill out the Notary box in front of a notary public.
  - Notary: If you plan to use a notary public, make sure you do not sign it until a notary can watch you sign the form. If you do sign it beforehand, you will need to complete a new form. Remember to bring your photo identification too.
9. You should have two attachments to this form (the Letter Notice of Judgment Creditor and the Release of Judgment by Court), but if you include a copy of the judgment, you will have three attachments.

**VI. Instructions for *Release of Judgment by Court Under Texas Civil Practice and Remedy Code, Section 31.008* Form**

Heading:

- *Case Number* – Fill in the Case Number assigned to your case.
  - *Name of Plaintiff/Creditor* – Write the name of the Plaintiff/Creditor who filed the case.
  - *Name of Defendant/Debtor* – Write your name.
  - *Precinct/Court Number* – Write in the number of the justice court precinct or county court.
  - *County, Texas* – Write in the name of the county in which the case is located.
1. If you file either one of these documents with the court, attach this *Release of Judgment by Court* form :
    - *The Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit, or*
    - *The Request for Hearing and Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit.*

Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff/Creditor

In the *(Check one)*

Justice Court, Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

County Court, Number \_\_\_\_\_

vs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant(s)/Debtor

\_\_\_\_\_ County, Texas  
*(County Name)*

**Release of Judgement by Creditor**

1. I am the Plaintiff or agent or attorney of record in this case. A judgment was entered on \_\_\_\_\_ *(month, day, year)* in this case.
2. I fully and completely release the judgment in this case. Defendant or Defendants are released from any obligations in the judgment, including all sums, fees, interest, and any other costs owed under the judgment. I also release any Defendants and their heirs or assigns from all liens or any Abstract of Judgment issued in this case.



\_\_\_\_\_  
***Plaintiff or Agent Signature***

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Plaintiff or Agent Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, State, Zip Code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email Address (if checked frequently)*

**Declaration or Notary:** Complete only one of the two following sections.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this affidavit is true and correct.

**Declaration:**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . My birthdate is:  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_.  
*Month/Day/Year*

My address is

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State ZIP Country*

\_\_\_\_\_ signed on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ in  
*Your Signature Month/Day/Year*

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
*County State*

**Notary:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print Your Name Your Signature (Do Not Sign until Notary can see you signing)*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY

**LETTER NOTICE OF  
JUDGMENT TO CREDITOR**

Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Section 31.008

**1. TO: Plaintiff / Judgment Creditor.** *(Send this letter to all people indicated below, if applicable)*

- a. State the judgment creditor's last known address and check the appropriate box to show how you mailed this letter:

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- Certified Mail, Return Receipt *OR*  
 Registered Mail

- b. If the address on the judgment creditor's pleadings or other court documents is different than the last known address listed above, state that address here and check the appropriate box to show how you mailed this letter:

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- Certified Mail, Return Receipt *OR*  
 Registered Mail

- c. If the judgment creditor had an attorney, state the attorney's address listed in the last pleading or court document filed by the judgment creditor here and check the appropriate box to show how you mailed this letter:

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- Certified Mail, Return Receipt *OR*  
 Registered Mail

- d. If the judgment creditor had an attorney, check the address listed for the attorney on the State Bar of Texas' website (<https://www.texasbar.com/>). If it is different than the one listed above in 1.c., state that address here and check the appropriate box to show how you mailed this letter:

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- Certified Mail, Return Receipt *OR*

Registered Mail

**2. FROM: DEFENDANT/ DEBTOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Defendant/Debtor on Judgment*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Current address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City State Zip Code*

**3. NOTICE OF JUDGMENT:**

In compliance with Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, I am sending you this letter to inform you of the below judgment:

The court's judgment shows that \_\_\_\_\_ is the Plaintiff listed in the following case:

Cause Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Justice Court, Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_ Place # \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**

County Court # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County, Texas.

The court's judgment shows a judgment in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_, additional costs of court as \$\_\_\_\_\_ (*list specific amount if stated in judgment or leave blank if not specified*) and post-judgment interest at \_\_\_\_\_% (*list interest rate if stated in judgment or leave blank if not specified*) against the Defendant, \_\_\_\_\_ (*Defendant's name*) on \_\_\_\_\_ (*date of judgment*).

In accordance with Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, if the Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor does not respond to this notice on or before the 15th day after the date this letter notice was sent, the judgment debtor may file an affidavit with the court stating that the judgment debtor has provided this required notice, the judgment creditor has not

responded to the notice, and that the location of the judgment creditor is not known to the judgment debtor.

The judgment debtor may then pay the judgment amount to the court and obtain a release of the judgment from the court. The court shall hold the amount paid to it by the judgment debtor and interest earned on that amount in trust for the judgment creditor.

4. **ADDITIONAL DETAILS** (*Not required*):

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\_\_\_\_\_

***Defendant Signature***

\_\_\_\_\_

*Date*

Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff

In the (Check one))

Justice Court, Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

County Court, Number \_\_\_\_\_

vs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ County, Texas  
(County Name)

**Request for Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit**

*(Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Section 31.008)*

1. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I was the Defendant in this case. Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor was given a judgment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (list total amount) against me on \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, and year). If I have a copy of the judgment, it is attached. (**attach judgment**)
2. I ask this court to accept my payment of the judgment in this case and issue a release of judgment pursuant to Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code.
3. I have not been able to pay the judgment amount directly to the Judgment Creditor because I do not know where the Judgment Creditor is located. I sent a letter notifying the judgment creditor of the judgment, as required by Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and that letter notification is attached. (**attach letter**).

On \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, and year), I sent a letter by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the following addresses notifying the Judgment Creditor of the judgment:

a. Judgment Creditor's last known address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Address listed on the Judgment Creditor's pleadings or other court records (if different from the last known address in 3.a.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Address of the Judgment Creditor's last attorney as shown in creditor's pleading or other court record (if there was an attorney):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. Address of the Judgment Creditor's last attorney as shown in the State Bar of Texas's records (if there was an attorney and this address is different from the address in 3.c.):

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4. The Judgment Creditor did not respond as of the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the date on which the letter notification was sent, and as a result, I do not know the location of the Judgment Creditor.

5. Additional information that may help the Court (not required):

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6. I have attached a proposed *Release of Judgment by Court*. (**attach a copy**)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Defendant/Judgment Debtor Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Defendant/Judgment Debtor Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, State, Zip Code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email Address, if you check it frequently*

**Declaration or Notary:** Complete only one of the two following sections.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this affidavit is true and correct.

Declaration:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . My birthdate is:  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_.  
*Month/Day/Year*



Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff

vs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant(s)

In the *(Check one)*

- Justice Court, Precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Court, Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(County Name)* County, Texas

**Request for Hearing and Release of Judgment and Supporting Affidavit**  
*(Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Section 31.008)*

1. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I was the Defendant in this case. Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor was given a judgment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ *(list total amount)* against me on \_\_\_\_\_ *(month, day, and year)*. If I have a copy of the judgment, it is attached. ***(attach judgment)***
2. I sent a letter of notification of the judgment to Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor, as required by Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and the following applies to my case *(check applicable box)*:
  - I have been unable to pay the judgment amount to the Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor because the Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor in this case refused to accept payment under the judgment.
  - I have made payment under the judgment to the Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor, but the Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor has refused to execute a release of judgment.
3. This is a request for this Court to accept payment for the judgment in this case, set a hearing to consider this matter, and execute, **upon hearing and notice**, a release from the judgment pursuant to Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code.
4. The letter of notification of the judgment I sent to Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor is attached ***(attach letter)*** and was sent as follows:

On \_\_\_\_\_ *(month, day, and year)*, I sent a letter by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the following addresses notifying the judgment creditor of the judgment:

a. Judgment Creditor's last known address:

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b. Address listed on the Judgment Creditor's pleadings or other court records (*if different from the last known address in 3.a.*):

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c. Address of the Judgment Creditor's last attorney as shown in creditor's pleading or other court record (*if there was an attorney*):

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d. Address of the Judgment Creditor's last attorney according to records of the State Bar of Texas (*if there was an attorney and this address is different from the address in 3.c.*):

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5. Additional information that may help the Court (*not required*):

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6. I have attached a proposed *Release of Judgment by Court*. (**attach a copy**)

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***Defendant/Judgment Debtor Signature***

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*Defendant/Judgment Debtor Name*

---

*Address*

---

*City, State, Zip Code*

---

*Phone Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email Address, if you check it frequently*

**Declaration or Notary:** Complete only one of the two following sections.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this affidavit is true and correct.

**Declaration:**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . My birthdate is:  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_.  
*Month/Day/Year*

My address is

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State ZIP Country*

\_\_\_\_\_ signed on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ in  
*Your Signature Month/Day/Year*

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
*County State*

**Notary:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print Your Name Your Signature (Do Not Sign until Notary can see you signing)*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY

7.

Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Plaintiff

vs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Defendant(s)

In the *(Check one)*

Justice Court, Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

County Court, Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County, Texas  
*(County Name)*

**Release of Judgment by Court under  
Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Section 31.008**

1. Plaintiff/Judgment Creditor recovered a judgment from Defendant or Defendants issued and signed by this Court on \_\_\_\_\_ *(month, day, year)*, which includes all costs of suits plus interest.
2. Defendant fully complied with the requirements of Section 31.008 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code and paid the Judgment in full satisfaction of all amounts owed on the Judgment of this case.
3. It is therefore ordered, decreed, and adjudged that the Defendant or Defendants are fully and completely release the judgment in this case. Defendant or Defendants are released from any obligations in the judgment, including all sums, fees, interest, and any other costs owed under the judgment. Defendant or Defendants and their heirs or assigns are also released from all liens or any Abstract of Judgment issued in this case.

It is SO ORDERED.

SIGNED on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
HONORABLE JUDGE PRESIDING