THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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An index to the full text of these documents is available on the Attorney General's website at https://www.texas.attorneygeneral.gov/attorney-general-opinions. For information about pending requests for opinions, telephone (512) 463-2110.

An Attorney General Opinion is a written interpretation of existing law. The Attorney General writes opinions as part of his responsibility to act as legal counsel for the State of Texas. Opinions are written only at the request of certain state officials. The Texas Government Code indicates to whom the Attorney General may provide a legal opinion. He may not write legal opinions for private individuals or for any officials other than those specified by statute. (Listing of authorized requestors: https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/attorney-general-opinions.)

Opinions

Opinion No. KP-0504

The Honorable Gary Gates

Chair, House Committee on Land and Resource Management

Texas House of Representatives

Post Office Box 2910

Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Re: Commissioners Court authority to select a firm to assist with re-drawing precinct lines pursuant to Chapter 42, Texas Elections Code (RQ-0597-KP)

S U M M A R Y

The Fort Bend Commissioners Court may hire an outside law firm of its own choice to assist it in fulfilling its redistricting duties under Chapter 42 of the Election Code without interfering with or usurping the Fort Bend County Attorney's statutory duties.

The County Attorney may not unilaterally contract with an outside law firm of her choice to assist the Commissioners Court in carrying out its redistricting duties under Chapter 42 of the Election Code.

For further information, please access the website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov or call the Opinion Committee at (512) 463-2110.

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