#### IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TOM GREEN COUNTY, TEXAS

## ORDER ADOPTING REDISTRICTING PLAN FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT PRECINCTS

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 9th day of November, 2021, came on to be considered the issue of periodic redistricting of county political boundaries. This Court has, in due time, given deliberate consideration to the legal issues and of governmental duties imposed by state and federal law. In addition, the Court has previously entered in the minutes of this Court, criteria by which any redistricting plan would be considered, the prior Order establishing criteria being incorporated herein by reference.

This Court has commissioned and has received an Initial Assessment by qualified professionals experienced in the field of redistricting law for the purpose of making a preliminary determination of population distribution between the four Commissioners Court precincts, and the obligation to comply with "one-person-one-vote" balance as required by applicable state and federal law. This assessment has been filed in the minutes of this Court, and is incorporated by this reference as Exhibit 1, Initial Assessment. A finding, based upon this assessment, recognized the legal duty to redraw political boundaries to comply with applicable law, and a copy of this finding is entered into the minutes of this court, by which reference this prior finding is incorporated into this Order of the Commissioners Court, Exhibit 2, Order Requiring Redistricting.

After convening in Public Hearing for comment upon any and all proposed plans, and after meeting in open session for the purpose of considering alternatives available to the County for modification of existing political boundaries in a manner designed to achieve both acceptable levels of numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts, and to protect the voting rights of all residents of Tom Green County, the Commissioners Court has determined to adopt the redistricting plan attached to this Order in map and data form, Exhibit 3. At a later date, this Court will receive a more complete description of this plan, including a map depiction of all new political boundaries, polling places, election precinct

boundaries, and any affect such changes in Commissioners Court precincts may have upon Justice of the Peace/Constable precincts. This supplemental order will be taken up and considered by the Court after public notice as required by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Redistricting Plan depicted in the maps and data attached to this Order are hereby APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Commissioners Court of Tom Green County, Texas. Upon final approval of the supplemental data to be provided at a later date, the Redistricting Plan, Proposal A adopted by this Order shall be effective immediately for use in the 2022 Primary and for all subsequent elections until changed or modified by later Order of this Court.

Signed this 12th day of November 2021.

County Judge Stephen C. Floyd

Commissioner Rick Bacon, Precinct 3

ATTEST:

Tom Green County Commissioners Court

Commissioner Bill Ford, Precinct 4



### IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF TOM GREEN COUNTY, TEXAS

FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING POLITICAL BOUNDARIES
OF TOM GREEN COUNTY, TEXAS
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF 2020 CENSUS DATA
AND
ORDER FOR REDISTRICTING OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

On the <u>29</u><sup>th</sup> day of <u>Chober</u>, 2021, the Commissioners Court of Tom Green County met in regular/called session, having posted notice of said hearing in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

The Commissioners Court of Tom Green County has previously retained the firm of Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP, of Austin, Texas, to conduct an Initial Assessment of existing political boundaries of Tom Green County, following the issuance of census data by the United States Census Bureau. Attached to this Order, and incorporated herein for all purposes by reference, is a copy of the initial assessment conducted by Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. This assessment is based upon PL94-171 data, as required by federal law, and is further based upon information provided to Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP by the Texas Legislative Council, other official sources of information, and by Tom Green County, Texas.

Based upon this information, Tom Green County has a total maximum deviation of 11.49%. The term total maximum deviation is determined by dividing the total population of Tom Green County by four, the number of Commissioners Court precincts to determine an ideal precinct size. The actual population of each precinct is then determined, based upon the official population data contained within the census count, as defined by Public Law 94-171. The actual population of each precinct is compared to the ideal precinct size and a range of deviation by percentage is determined. Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under established federal law.

As a result of this determination, Tom Green County has a constitutional duty to redistrict its political boundaries so as to achieve "One-Person-One-Vote" numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts at a legally acceptable margin of deviation, and to make such changes as are necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act and applicable state and federal law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDUGED and DECREED that the Commissioners Court of Tom Green County, Texas expressly finds that it has a legal duty to redistrict. The public interest will be served by redrawing the existing political boundaries of Tom Green County in such a manner as to comply with applicable state and federal law. The Commissioners Court hereby enters the following findings of fact and of law:

- 1. Tom Green County has a total maximum deviation, as defined in this order, of 11.49%.
- Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under federal law.
- 3. Tom Green County, acting by and through its Commissioners Court, is hereby resolved to immediately undertake such necessary and appropriate action to accomplish redistricting of existing commissioners court precincts, and any incidental modification of existing, consolidated, or newly created election precincts necessary to accomplish such redistricting.
- 4. The Commissioners Court shall henceforth convene in open meetings, duly posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, to take up and consider one or more alternative plans for the legal redistricting of Tom Green County.
- 5. After due consideration of one or more alternative plans, Tom Green County shall adopt a plan deemed to satisfy legal requirements, and which best suits the legitimate governmental needs of Tom Green County.
- 6. The adopted redistricting plan will address political boundaries of the Commissioners Court, Justice of the Peace and Election precincts of Tom Green County, and shall remain in effect until altered or amended by subsequent Order of the Commissioners Court.

Signed this 29th day of October, 2021.

Judge Stephen C. Floyd

Ralph Hoelscher
Commissioner Ralph Hoelscher, Precinct 1

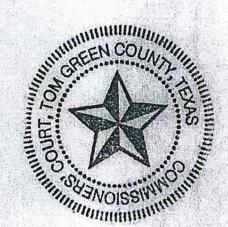
Commissioner Sammy Farmer, Precinct 2

Kula Dan

Commissioner Rick Bacon, Precinct 3

Commissioner Bill Ford, Precinct 4

County Clerk, Tom Green County





### AN ORDER ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

The Commissioners Court is the governing body of Tom Green County, Texas, meeting in a duly scheduled and posted meeting, does hereby adopt the following criteria for use in the redistricting of all county political boundaries. Any plan for the redistricting of representative members of the Commissioners Court of the Tom Green County should, to the maximum extent possible, conform to the following criteria:

- 1. The plan should ensure that all applicable provisions of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, the Voting Rights Act, the Texas Election Code are honored.
- 2. The plan should be drawn in such a manner that the maximum deviation from an ideal size, as determined by dividing the total population of the county divided by four (the number of single member districts that compose the Commissioners Court of Tom Green County, by not more than five (5%) percent for any single precinct, or a total top to bottom deviation (percentage of deviation below and above the ideal size) of not more than ten (10%) percent.
- The plan should address minority representation, and if at all possible, in conformity with constitutional standards, avoid retrogression in the percentage of population and voting age demographics consistent with existing minority representation.
- 4. The plan should, avoid fragmentation and preserve minority communities of interest to the maximum extent possible. These communities of interest should be recognized and retained intact where possible. Only when the overall minority population of the county is sufficiently large to require more than one minority district should minority populations be divided, and only then to the least degree possible.
- 5. The plan should not, however, attempt to unreasonably join geographically remote minority populations into a single precinct unless there are strong and genuine connections between these communities as reflected by common schools, churches, or cultural ties. For example, minority populations in two separate towns, located miles apart, may not have sufficient links or common political cohesion to justify joining these two minority population centers into a single electoral group. Particularly when dealing with distinct minority groups,

- such as Black and Hispanic populations, a general assumption that separate minority populations will vote in a "block" may be unsupportable in fact.
- 6. The plan should seek compact and contiguous political boundaries. Physical boundaries of cultural or economic significance, such as rivers, multi-laned control access highways or turnpikes, which tend to divide populations in fundamental ways, should be recognized and where possible, should only serve as necessary to achieve recognized objectives. To the maximum extent possible, clearly recognized boundaries, such as streets and highways, should be used to facilitate ease of voter identification of boundaries, as well as election administration.
- 7. Where possible, well-recognized and long used election precinct boundaries should be retained intact (within the limitations imposed by state and federal law) or with as little alteration as possible.
- 8. Election precincts in the plan should be sized in conformity with state law. For example, in counties that use traditional, hand counted paper ballots, no election precinct may contain more than 2000 voters. In counties with voting systems that allow for automated ballot counting, this number may be increased to as many as 5000 registered voters.
- 9. The plan should afford incumbent office holders with the assurance that they will continue to represent the majority of individuals who elected these incumbents, and all incumbents' residential locations should be retained in their reformed precincts to ensure continuity in leadership during the remaining term of incumbents to the extent possible.
- 10. The plan should address fundamental and necessary governmental functions, and to the extent possible, ensure that these functions are enhanced rather than impaired. For example, county road mileage should be balanced to the extent possible between the resulting commissioner's precincts. Election administration should not be unduly complex as a result of election boundaries.
- 11. The plan should ensure that election voting precincts under that plan do not contain territory from more than one commissioner's precinct, justice precinct, congressional district, state representative district, state senatorial district and state Board of Education. Although no longer required, city election wards should be honored in virtually all circumstances, with city and rural county voters being kept in separate voting precincts to the extent possible. Where they exist, other special election districts, such as water, hospital, or navigation

districts, should be structured in a manner to provide to the greatest extent possible the harmonious administration of various election jurisdictions.

- 12. The plan should attempt to locate polling places in convenient, well-known locations that are accessible to disabled voters to the maximum extent possible. Public buildings should be utilized to the maximum extent possible as polling places. Where necessary, buildings routinely open to the public, such as churches, retail businesses, or private buildings dedicated to public activities, can be used as polling places.
- If the reduction of polling places can be accomplished, without impinging upon voter convenience and minority voting rights, such reductions can be considered.
- 14. Citizen input should be encouraged, but in order to minimize cost and to have sufficient information to evaluate such proposals fairly, the County will only consider proposed plans submitted to the County for evaluation by individual citizens or groups if the proposed plan is submitted to the County in a commonly used GIS format, such as .SHP, .MAP, .KLM, .GPX, .MDB, along with maps and demographic data sufficient to address voting rights concerns.

The foregoing criteria are deemed to be illustrative, but not exclusive, examples of fundamentally important issues, which should be considered in any redistricting, plan. Therefore, the Commissioners Court expresses its intention to measure any plan submitted for consideration by this set of criteria, and to base any eventual exercise of discretion upon the foregoing criteria.

The criteria approved this date were considered in open Court, following posting not less than 72 hours before any action taken on the same. Upon motion by Rick Bacon, second by Billford, the Commissioners Court of Tom Green County hereby adopts the criteria set forth herein by a vote of 5 to 0.

Signed this 29th day of October, 2021

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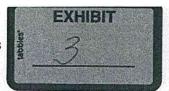
County Jude

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County Clerk

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# Plan A Tom Green County, Texas



2020 Census Data Total Population

	Actual Pop.	Ideal Pop.	Deviate	Relative Deviation		
Precinct 1	29689	30001	-312	-1.04%		
Precinct 2	30266	30001	265	0.88%		
Precinct 3	30444	30001	443	1.48%		
Precinct 4	29604	30001	-397	-1.32%		
Total	120003	120003				
Total Maximum Deviation	2.80	%				

_	2010 Pop	2020 Pop	Change	% Change			
	110224	120003	9779	8.1%			

Total Maximum Deviation above 10% requires redistricting

Maximum Deviation less than than 5% is desireable if possible.

Ethnic/Racial Data-Total										
	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	9264	1205	89	196	18087	33	94	721	29689	24.74%
Precinct 2	19951	1035	90	593	7316	39	86	1156	30266	25.22%
Precinct 3	16230	857	113	293	11822	20	79	1030	30444	25.37%
Precinct 4	16945	913	74	622	9841	51	110	1048	29604	24.67%
Total	62390	4010	366	1704	47066	143	369	3955	120003	100.00%
% of County	51.99%	3.34%	0.30%	1.42%	39.22%	0.12%	0.31%	3.30%	100.000%	
Ethnic %							CONTRACT.		i i jek	
Precinct 1	31.20%	4.06%	0.30%	0.66%	60.92%	0.11%	0.32%	2.43%	100.00%	
Precinct 2	65.92%	3.42%	0.30%	1.96%	24.17%	0.13%	0.28%	3.82%	100.00%	
Precinct 3	53.31%	2.82%	0.37%	0.96%	38.83%	0.07%	0.26%	3.38%	100.00%	
Precinct 4	57.24%	3.08%	0.25%	2.10%	33.24%	0.17%	0.37%	3.54%	100.00%	
	t No also will	di Garan			100	8.45			2776	
Voting Age Ethnic/Racial Data	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	7617	956	80	156	12820	18	64	501	22212	24.21%
Precinct 2	16349	857	69	469	5160	38	59	828	23829	25.97%
Precinct 3	13078	666	93	242	7894	16	68	685	22742	24.79%
Precinct 4	14005	709	69	524	6801	35	80	749	22972	25.04%
Total	51049	3188	311	1391	32675	107	271	2763	91755	100.00%
% of County	55.64%	3.47%	0.34%	1.52%	35.61%	0.12%	0.30%	3.01%	100.000%	
Voting Age %										
Precinct 1	34.29%	4.30%	0.36%	0.70%	57.72%	0.08%	0.29%	2.26%	100.000%	
	68.61%	3.60%	0.29%	1.97%	21.65%	0.16%	0.25%	3.47%	100.000%	
Precinct 2						Company of the Compan				
Precinct 2 Precinct 3	57.51%	2.93%	0.41%	1.06%	34.71%	0.07%	0.30%	3.01%	100.000%	

