

User Reference Guide for Government Filers



User Reference Guide





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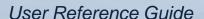
FREE fax

FREEfax enables you to:

- Upload up to 200documents per case filing
- With a maximum combined size of 50 MB (megabytes), right from your own computer.

Fast. Easy. Free!













PLEASE NOTE:

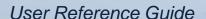
We are currently only accepting filings for:

Civil (Non-family) Cases

through our FREE fax filing service.

Fast. Easy. Free!











Accepts only PDF Format

Additionally, FREEfax can only accept documents in **PDF format**.

If your documents are not in PDF format, you can search Google to find a free "PDF converter "or "PDF maker" software.











Logging in to FREEfax

To start using FREEfax, simply login to www.hcdistrictclerk.com using your existing login information and click on the FREEfax icon or select FREEfax from the Online Services drop menu.





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Registering for e-Gov

If you have not registered for **e-Gov**, simply visit

www.hcdistrictclerk.com

and click on the New User icon in the top-navigation bar of our Homepage, then click on the Government Agencies Quick Link on the bottomleft-hand corner of the Welcome page.





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Registering for e-Gov

On the **e-Gov** page, click on the link for **e-Gov Application packet** and follow the instructions for submitting your registration form and you will receive your **e-Gov Login** information by email.





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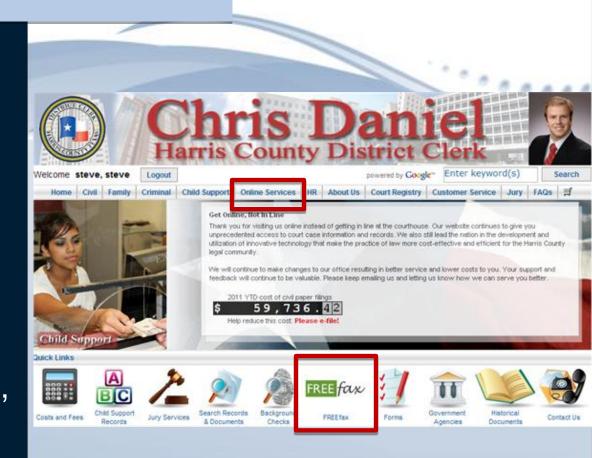


Using FREEfax

Once you receive your login information, login on our homepage at

www.hcdistrictclerk.com,

and click on the FREEfax icon or go to Online Services on the topnavigation menu, then from the drop down menu, select FREEfax Filing.





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Terms and Conditions FREEfax

On the FREEfax filing

page, you must read the

notification regarding the

Fax Filing Rules and

Terms of Service, and

click on the checkbox to

confirm you have "Read

and Agree" to the rules

continue to the Upload

Page.

and terms and click on the

AGREE button, in order to

FREEFax User Guide Public FREEFax User Guide Government

Terms and Conditions

FREEfax on behalf of Government Entities is available in all the Civil (NON-Family) District Courts. FREEfax on behalf of Public Entites is available only for filings with No Associated Court Fees in the following courts: 55th, 80th, 125th, 127th, 129th, 133rd, 151st, and 215th.

Pursuant to the Amended Rules Governing the Procedure for the District Clerk of Harris County For Receiving and Filing Electronically Transmitted Court Documents ("Local Filing Rules"), all fax filings must:

- 1. Conform to the requirements for filing established by the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure; and,
- 2. Comply with the requirements for the Electronic Filing of Certain Documents as specified in Texas Government Code Sections
- 3. The sender shall maintain the original hard copy of the document being filed with original signature affixed as required by section 51.806 of the Texas Government Code. The quality of the original hard copy must be clear and dark enough to transmit legibly as required by the Local Filing Rules.

The Fax Client will automatically propagate a cover sheet based on information entered on the filing screen. The information entered on the filing screen must:

- 1. Clearly identify the sender, the documents being transmitted and the number of pages; and,
- 2. Have clear and concise instructions concerning issuance or other request.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL FILING RULES. THE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE FILING. FILING IS COMPLETE WHEN THE CLERK'S OFFICIAL DATE AND TIME FILE STAMP IS AFFIXED TO THE DOCUMENT, TRANSMISSIONS COMPLETED DURING A NORMAL BUSINESS DAY BEFORE 9:00PM AND ACCEPTED FOR FILING WILL BE CONSIDERED FILED AND FILE MARKED ON THE DAY OF RECEIPT.

IMPORTANT:

The Court Clerk's Official Date and Time File Stamp will be affixed when the clerk ACCEPTS the filing. The document File Stamp Value will reflect the date and time the fax was received.

- ** FREEfax IS ONLY AVAILABLE FROM 12:01 A.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M. (CENTRAL), MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
- ** FREEfax IS NOT AVAILABLE ON HOLIDAYS.
- ** FREEfax IS NOT AVAILABLE ON WEEKENDS.
 - I have read, understand and agree to abide by these terms and conditions; and
 - I have read the Fules Governing the Procedure for the District Clerk of Harris County For Receiving and Filing Electronically Transmitted Cour Documents and Texas Government Code Chapter 51.8 Subchapter I;
 - I am filing on behalf of a overnmental entity

AGREE

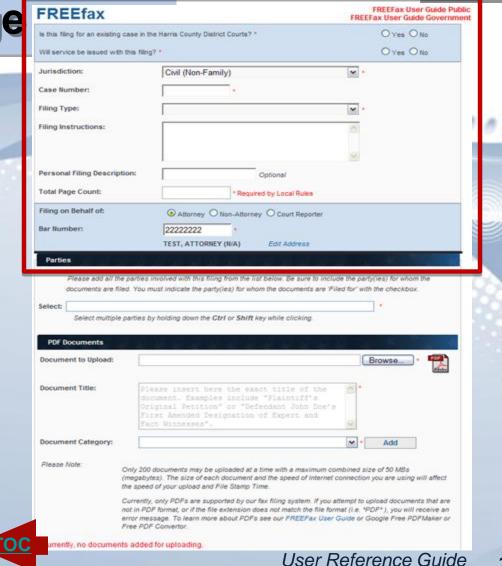




FREEfax Upload Page

Before uploading a document you will be asked to enter information identifying the type of document you are filing.

Please note: All fields marked with asterisks are required fields and must be filled before you are allowed to upload any documents.



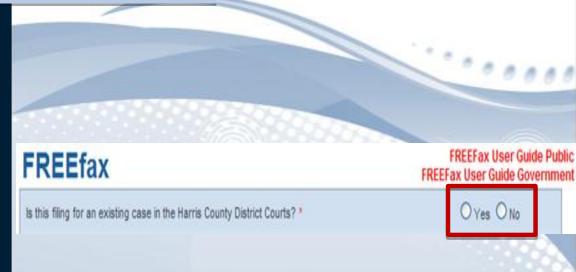




Filing a New Suit

If you are filing a **New Suit** please check the "No" radio button in the top right-hand corner of the shaded blue box or click the "Yes" radio button for an existing case.

Please Note: For Existing Cases you will be required to enter a case number for the filing.

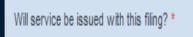






Requesting Service

If you are requesting service with a filing, please be sure to check the yes radio button at the top of the form before continuing to ensure that your filing is properly routed and processed in a timely manner. If no service is required please check the no radio button.







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Jurisdiction Field

In the field that follows, as we are currently only accepting Filings for Civil (Non-family) Cases through FREEfax, you will notice that the information for the **Jurisdiction** field will already be filled-in for you as "Civil (Non-Family)."





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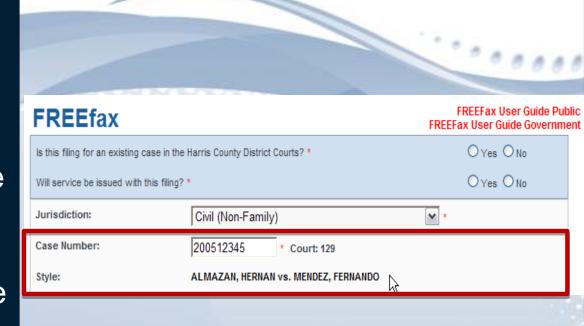






Filing an Existing Case

If you are filing on an existing case, enter your Case Number in the field that follows. If you choose to file for an existing case, you MUST enter a valid case number. Once you've entered a valid case number, the **Style** of your case will automatically appear in the space below the case number.





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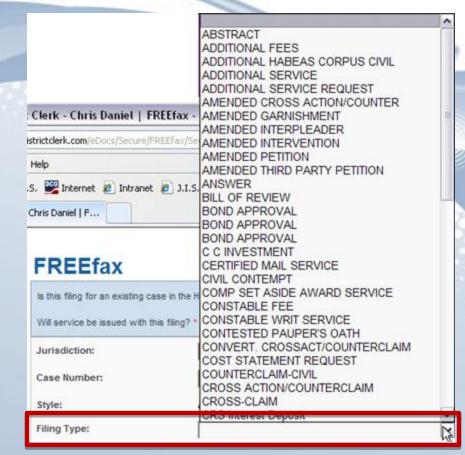






Selecting Type of Case

Select the **Type** of case you are filing from the drop-down menu.





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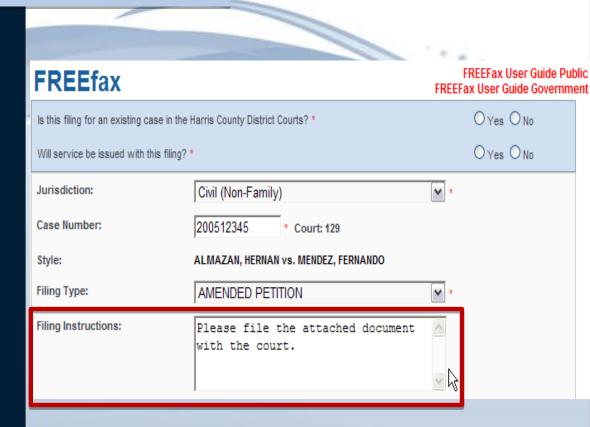
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Filing Instructions

Enter any instructions you have regarding the document you are filing in the **Filing Instructions** field.





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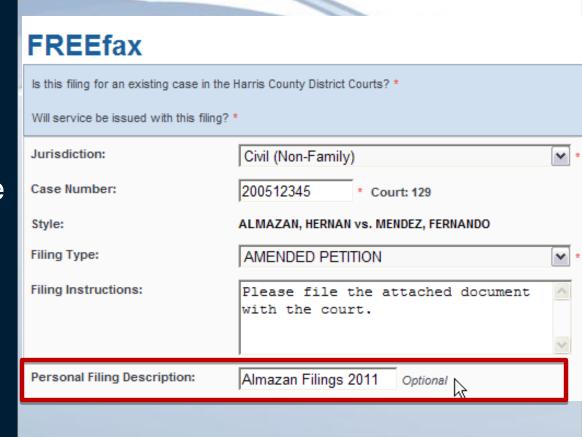






Personal Filing Description

Enter a **Personal Filing Description, or PFD** for your filing. A Personal Filing Description can be any name you'd like to use for easily tracking your filing in the future, such as, "2010Motions," or a name based on your own filing system or office protocol.





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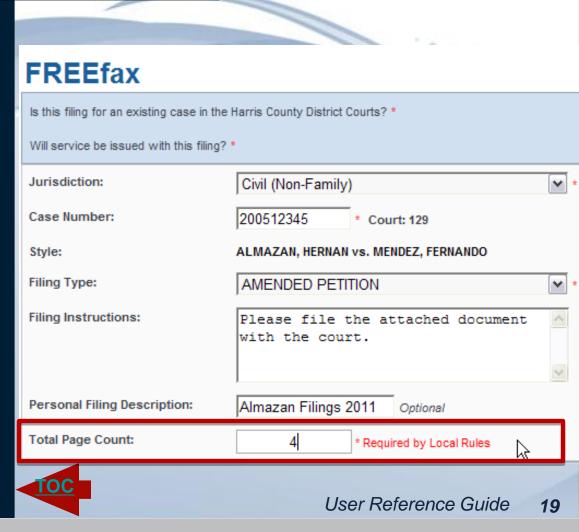






Total Page Count

In the Total Page Count field, ensure that the number you enter is accurate and matches the total number of pages you will upload. If the number of pages does not match the number of pages you attempt to upload, the service will reject your upload and display an error message.







Identify Who is Filing

Identify who is submitting the filing. If you are registered with our office as an attorney, please type in your **bar number** into the **Bar Number** field. If you are not an attorney simply check the Non-**Attorney radio** button or if you are a court reporter check the court reporter radio button and continue to the next field.

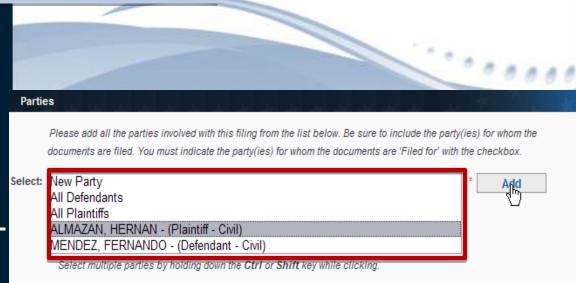




Filing on Behalf of

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Identify for whom the document is being filed by choosing the name of the person on whose behalf you are filing from the dropdown list.













Adding a New Party

If you are adding a **New**Party, select "Add New

Party" and several new

fields will appear for you to
enter additional information
about the **New Party**.

arties		
	es involved with this filing from the list be	low. Be sure to include the party(ies) for whom the d
e filed. You must indic	cate the party(ies) for whom the document	's are 'Filed for' with the checkbox.
Party Role:		*
Name:	Last name, first name	* Business Name
No Address:		
Address Number:	*	
Street Name:		*
Apartment:		
City:		*
Zip Code:	±	
State:		•
Country:	UNITED STATES	•
Phone:		
Fax:		
	Save Cancel	











Required Data Fields

Please Note: All fields marked with *asterisks* are required and must be filled before you are allowed to Add the New Party.

Parties	<u>بدید برید پر پر پر</u>	COURT OF STATE
•	involved with this filing from the list below. Be at the party(ies) for whom the documents are 'Fi	sure to include the party(ies) for whom the documented for' with the checkbox.
Party Role:	CROSS PLAINTIFF	•
Name:	Almazan, Mario	* Business Name
No Address:		
Address Number:	201 *	
Street Name:	Caroline Street	*
Apartment:		
City:	Houston	*
Zip Code:	77002 *	
State:	TEXAS	•
Country:	UNITED STATES	•
Phone:	7135555555	
Fax:	(713) 555-5500	
	Save	



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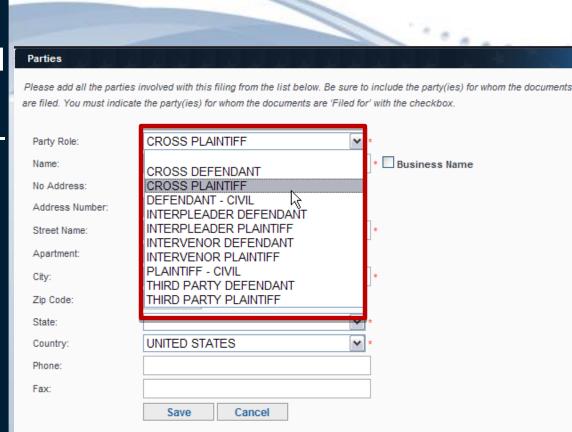






New Party: Role Field

Once you've selected "Add New Party" please select "Party Role" from the dropdown menu and continue to the additional fields regarding the new party.









New Party: Name Field

In the **Name** field, enter last name, comma, then first name of the individual for whom you are filing.

If you are filing on behalf of a business, check the **Business Name** box to the right of the Name field. Then enter the name of the Business. Continue to the Address field.

Parties		
•	s involved with this filing from the list below. Ite the party(ies) for whom the documents an	Be sure to include the party(ies) for whom the docume 'Filed for' with the checkbox.
Party Role:	CROSS PLAINTIFF	•
Name:	Almazan, Mario	* Business Name
No Address:		\ \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
Address Number:	*	
Street Name:		*
Apartment:		
City:		*
Zip Code:	±	
State:		•
Country:	UNITED STATES	•
Phone:		
Fax:		
	Save Cancel	



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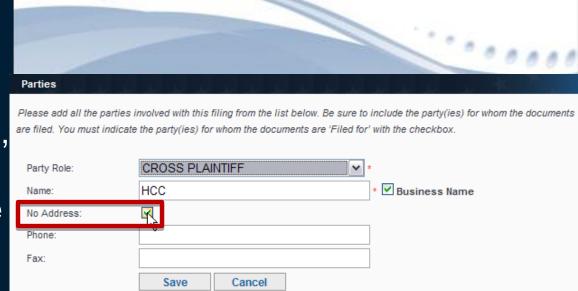
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New Party: Address Field

If you do not have an address for the party on whose behalf you are filing, simply check the **No Address** box and continue to the other fields.





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Adding a New Party

Once you have entered all the information you have regarding the New Party, click on the Save button to receive confirmation that the **New Party** has been **Added**.

Please Note: If any information has been entered incorrectly, you can click cancel and start all over.

Please add all the parties	involved with this filing from the list below. Be sure to include the party(ies) for whom the
are filed. You must indicate	te the party(ies) for whom the documents are 'Filed for' with the checkbox.
Party Role:	CROSS PLAINTIFF *
Name:	Almazan, Mario
No Address:	
Address Number:	201 *
Street Name:	Caroline Street *
Apartment:	
City:	Houston
Zip Code:	77002 *
State:	TEXAS •
Country:	UNITED STATES *
Phone:	7135555555
Fax:	(713) 555-5500
	Save



Parties







New Party ERROR Message

If you receive an ERROR Message when you attemp to Add a New Party, please check to ensure all the information has been entered and spelled correctly. If you are not sure the information is accurate, enter only the information you know is accurate and leave the other fields blank.

•	es involved with this filing from the list below. Be sure to include the party(ies) for whom the deate the party(ies) for whom the documents are 'Filed for' with the checkbox.
are med. Too mast mare	are the party(res) for whom the documents are 1 ned for whith the checkbox.
Party Role:	CROSS PLAINTIFF *
Name:	Almazan, Mario * Business Name
No Address:	
Address Number:	201 *
Street Name:	Caroline Street
Apartment:	
City:	Houston
Zip Code:	77002 *
State:	TEXAS *
Country:	UNITED STATES
Phone:	7135555555
Fax:	(713) 555-5500
	Save



Parties

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Uploading a Document

Once you have competed the Filing on Behalf of field, you will then be ready to Upload the document. Begin by clicking on the Browse button to navigate to the location where your document is stored on your computer.





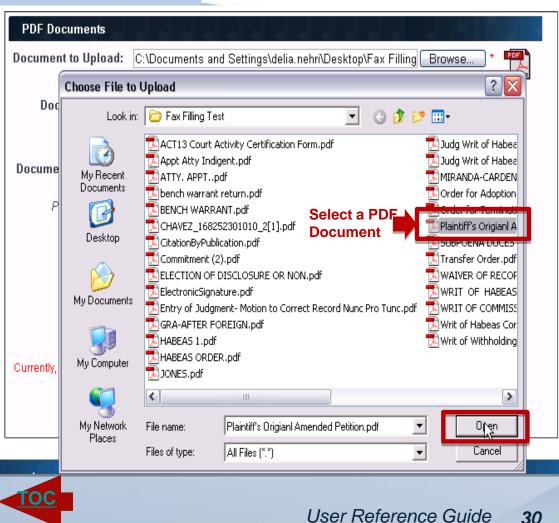




Uploading a Document

When you click on the Browse button, a window will open displaying a list of locations on your computer, including folders and drives.

Click on the location or folder where the PDF document is located. Then double click on it or click on the **OPEN** button to select it.







Uploading a Document

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Once you've selected the document, you will be returned to the **Documents Upload** window where the name of the document you selected will be displayed in the top field.





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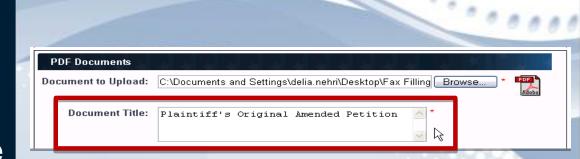




Entering Document Title

Enter the title of the document you are filing in the **Document Title** field.

The **Document Title** is the identifying name printed on the document, such as "Plaintiff's Original Petition," "Motion for Continuance," or other name.





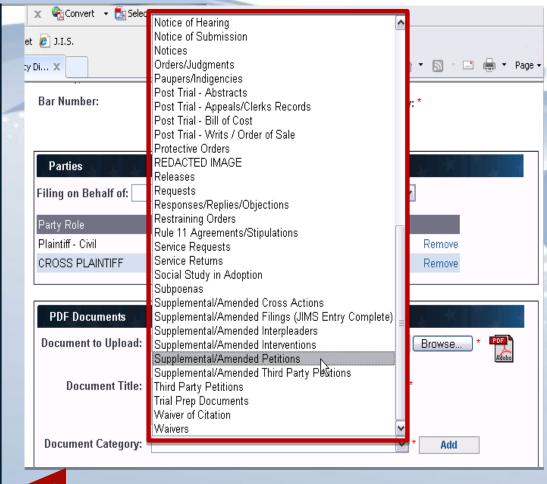






Selecting Type of Document

From the drop-down menu select the **Type** of document you are submitting.





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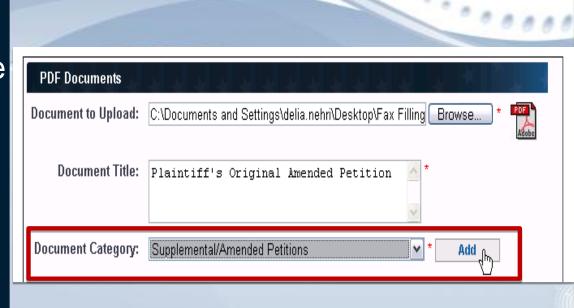




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Adding a Document

After you have entered the required document information, click the on the Add button to add your document to your case filing. To add multiple documents, follow the same process to add each document. Your filing is not ready for upload until you have added at least one document.







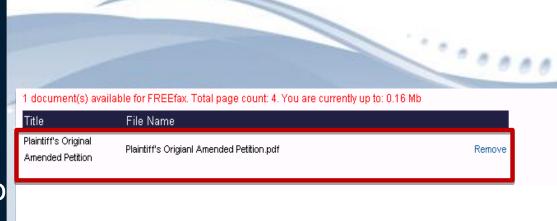


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Adding a Document

You will be allowed to **Add** up to **200 documents** for any single filing, and to view a list of all the documents you've added to that filing.

Upon viewing your list, you will also be able to **delete** any documents you don't want to keep on your list.





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Sending Your Document

If are satisfied with the list of documents you have added to your filing, click on the Fax button to submit the documents to the FREEfax filing service.

You MUST click the Fax button to complete your filing.





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Upload Confirmation

If the fax service accepts your documents, a confirmation message will display, stating "Your Files have Been Successfully Uploaded," and listing a FREEfax Unique Trace Number assigned to your filing, e.g.: FAX14978620. **Email Confirmation** will follow once we receive your documents.

FREEfax

Your FREEfax Filing has been successfully uploaded. The following Unique Trace Number has been assigned to your fax filing: FAX14979658. You will receive an email confirmation when your fax filing has been received. Additionally, you can follow the status of a filing on our My FREEfax Filings page.



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Email Confirmation



When our office has received your documents, you will receive an **email confirmation**.

The email will also contain a FREEfax Unique trace
Number for you to track your filing in the future.

Dear Valued Customer

Your FREEfax Filing Batch 'Tracy's test' has been received. The following Unique Trace Number has been assigned to your fax filing: FAX14981041.

The following file(s) were received with this batch:

BloodBankNews_v05_2010.pdf

You will receive another email informing you if your fax fling has been 'ACCEPTED' or 'REJECTED' for filing by the Court Clerk.

Thank you for fax filing.

The Harris County District Clerk's Office



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Email Confirmation

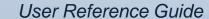
FREE fax

Once your filing has been received, a clerk will review it and send you an email confirming the status of your filing as either "Accepted" or "Rejected."

Dear Valued Customer,

The trace number FAX14981042 has not been accepted.









If Your filing is "Rejected"

If your FREEfax filing is "Rejected," you will see a reason(s) why the filing was "Rejected."

Dear Valued Customer,

The trace number FAX14981042 has not been accepted.

The filing was not accepted for the following reason:

Other

testing

Thank you for fax filing.

The Harris County District Clerk's Office









Checking Filing Status

Remember you can also check the status of your FREEfax filings by going to the My FREEfax Filings page to see the list of your recent filings.





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My FaxFilings Page

To navigate to the **My FaxFilings** page follow the login process for www.hcdistrictclerk.com, if you are not already logged in.

On the **Homepage**, select **Online Services** from the drop-down menu then select **My FaxFilings** or just click on the FREEfax icon on the Homepage.





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Filings in Pending Status

On the **My FaxFilings** page, you will see a list your filings that are still **Pending** in the Pending tab.





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The recent tab will contain a list of your **Top-20 Most-Recent Filings**, both "Accepted" or "Rejected" filings.

My FREEfax Filings

Pending Recent Search								
TOP 20								
	Trace no.	Case/Cause	PFD*	Docs	Submitted	Status	Processed	Clerk
ѷ	FAX14985099	200012345	Reject	1	09/08/2010 10:27 PM	Rejected	09/08/2010	KRISHNA VEETURI
*	FAX14981514	200512345	Almazan Filings 2010	1	08/18/2010 10:34 AM	Rejected	08/18/2010	RUTH MCDUGLE
ѷ	FAX14981044	200512345	tseet	1	08/15/2010 06:14 PM	Rejected	08/15/2010	TRACY HOPPER
*	FAX14981043	200012345	MyTest	1	08/15/2010 05:49 PM	Accepted	08/15/2010	TRACY HOPPER
❖	FAX14981042	199802223	REJECT - TEST ONLY	1	08/14/2010 02:19 PM	Rejected	08/14/2010	TRACY HOPPER
*	FAX14981041	200512345	Tracy's test	1	08/14/2010 01:58 PM	Accepted	08/14/2010	TRACY HOPPER



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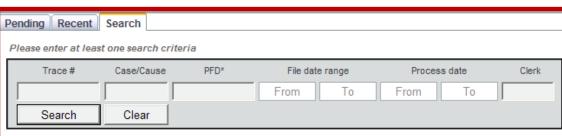




Using the SEARCH Function

Use the **Search Function** in the third tab to search for My FREEfax Filings your filings.

The Search Function offers multiple options for searching your filings, including Trace Number, PFD (Personal Filing Description), Filing Date, Case/Cause Number and other options.



* PFD refers to Personal Filing Description



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Viewing a Document

To view an "Accepted" filestamped document, simply click on the **Image Number** and a new window displaying your document will open.

Please Note: You will only be able to view images of documents that have been "Accepted" 1-2 days after filing.





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To Learn More

To learn more about our FREEFax Online Filing Service visit

www.hcdistrictclerk.com

and use the FREEFax
Filing links in the What's
New section on our
Homepage.





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If you Still Have Questions

If you still have questions about FREEfax after referring to our User Guide, email them to

FREEfax@hcdistrictclerk.com.

All questions will be answered by our FREEfax representative in the order they are received.

Please Note: At this time, our call center agents are not authorized to answer questions about FREEfax.

All questions should be emailed to our FREEfax representative.







FREEfax is NOT e-Filing

Please note: FREEfax filing service **is NOT e-Filing**.

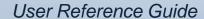
If you are interested in e-Filing, please visit

www.hcdistrictclerk.com and click on the e-Filing icon on our Homepage.















Another Technology Initiative Brought to You By

Chris Daniel,
The Harris County District Clerk



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