

# Court Observation

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- 3 hours total – can be accumulated in any number of trips of any length. For example: 1 trip of 3 hours, 2 trips of 1.5 hours each, 3 trips of 1 hour each.
- After each visit, send Brian Campbell ([brian.campbell@casatravis.org](mailto:brian.campbell@casatravis.org)) an email with the date, the duration of each visit, and the name of the judge you observed for your training records.
- You may *absolutely* observe for more than 3 hours.
- Please dress professionally for court. **No sneakers, shorts, tank tops, jeans or gum.**
- Observe all three (3) judges if you like, although it is *not required*. While working on your CASA cases you will eventually present in front of all three, so feel free to take the time now to observe each of them and ask questions in class about what you observe.
- Judges and Days
  - Judge Darlene Byrne – Mondays
  - Judge Texanna Davis – Fridays
  - Judge John Hathaway – 1-3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, no observation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.

*Be sure to observe one of these judges to ensure you are observing CPS cases*

- Locations
  - Downtown – 1000 Guadalupe Street Austin 78701 (11<sup>th</sup> & Guadalupe )
    - Judge Byrne on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor – Mondays
    - Judge Davis on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor – Fridays
  - South – Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center – 2515 S. Congress Austin 78704 (S. Congress & Oltorf)
    - Judge John Hathaway on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor – 1-3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays each month
  - Maps and driving directions are found at the end of the packet.

- Parking

- Downtown – Centralized parking meters are located throughout the downtown area and take coins, Mastercard, and Visa. Most are 3 hours; however there are a few 5 hour meters 2 blocks behind the courthouse near Nueces and 8<sup>th</sup>. There is a parking lot located at 9<sup>th</sup> and San Antonio.

*Be sure to plan ample time to locate parking and walk to the courthouse.*

- South Congress – Parking is free! There is a parking lot across Long Street, which runs between Gardner Betts and the shopping center. You should always be able to find parking in that lot.

- Times

- Judge Byrne's court runs on Mondays. Her docket typically starts at 8:30 am and runs through the afternoon. ***If you must arrive or leave while the docket is underway, only enter/exit in between hearings.*** You will be able to tell as all the people standing directly in front of her bench will leave. Seat yourself in the jury box if space is available.
- Judge Davis's court runs on Fridays and typically starts at 8:30 am. Once again, check the docket schedule in the training room if necessary to plan your schedule.
- Judge Hathaway's court runs on the first, second, and third Wednesday of each month and typically starts at 8:30 am. When you arrive at Gardner Betts, you will go through a metal detector, then immediately to your left you will see an Information Desk. Sign in at this Information Desk, and get a badge if you do not have a CASA Court badge. The person at the Information Desk will be able to tell you in which courtroom CPS cases are being heard. Feel free to sit up close to ensure you can adequately hear.

# Directions to Courthouses

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Downtown:



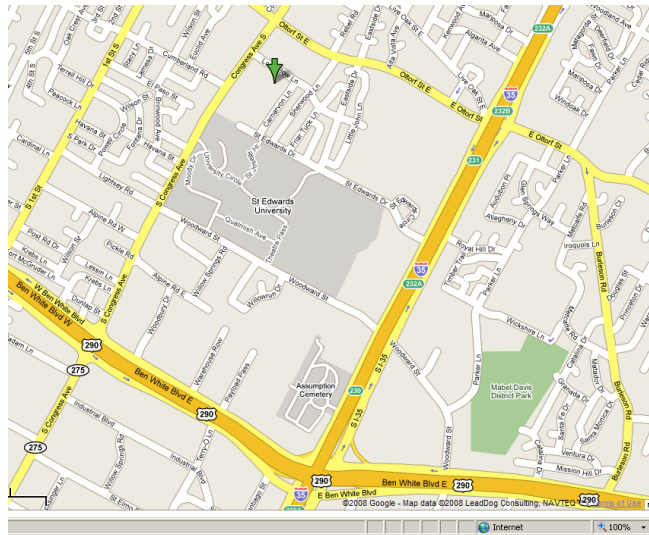
## Directions from Mopac:

Exit Enfield road. Go east. Take a right on Guadalupe.  
The Courthouse is four blocks down on the right.

## Directions from IH-35:

Exit 15th Street. Go west. Take a left on Guadalupe.  
The Courthouse is four blocks down on the right.

## Gardner Betts



### **Directions from Mopac:**

Exit 290 / Ben White. Go east. Exit South Congress. Turn Left. The Courthouse is 1.1 miles down on the right.

### **Directions from IH-35:**

Exit Oltorf. Go west. Take a left on South Congress. The Courthouse is .2 miles down on the left.