

Method for Filing a Divorce in BELL County- Step 3

3. Final Divorce Prove-up

- a. You must wait 61 days after you file the petition before you may finalize the divorce. After 61 days have lapsed, call the court clerk at 254-933-5197, tell them you are representing yourself in a divorce, and find out when you can prove-up your divorce. The prove-up is the process by which you finalize your divorce.
- b. Bring with you the original copy of the *6-Final Decree of Divorce* that has been signed by both you and your spouse. Also, take two copies of the *Decree* and the *7-Prove-up Testimony* document.
- c. Go to the court clerk and file the original *Final Decree*. After the forms have been filed, ask the clerk for your case file for the purpose of proving-up your divorce.
- d. Take the case file to the courtroom and hand it to the bailiff. You will be called to stand in front of the judge. Read the script verbatim and the judge will sign the decree when you have finished.
- e. Take your signed decree back to the court clerk and they will give you your copy. They will mail your spouse a copy and that is the end of the process.

The court clerk will also have you fill out a simple form called the “Austin Form” that is required for every divorce. It asks for very basic and simple information. Be prepared to fill that out as well.

I am here to assist you along the way. Email or call if you have any questions.

Thanks,

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