



September 2015

GCAT Newsletter

Hotel Information

Omni Park West/Dallas

Dallas, Texas

1-800-THE-OMNI

Refer to the GCAT Conference

Daily Conference hours

We will be meeting from **9:00 am thru 5:30 p.m.** most days. We need all the time we can get with the guest speakers and Office of Court Admiration specialist to learn new and helpful ways to make your office a Grand Slam kind of process and to collect more money than ever.

Legislative Updates Concerning counties and cities

SB 873 – Effective 9/1/15.

Changes current law that allows a defendant arrested on a *capias pro fine* to be held in jail until the next business day if the court that issued the *capias pro fine* is unavailable. Adds the option for the peace officer to take the defendant before another court in the county or municipality that has the same jurisdiction as the court that issued the *capias pro fine*. See arts. 43.05, 45.045, 45.046, Code Crim. Proc.

Short fall recipe

Chicken & Dumplings

1 carton (32 oz) Progresso™ reduced-sodium chicken broth (4 cups)

3 cups shredded cooked chicken (about 1 1/2 lb)

1 can (10 3/4 oz) condensed cream of chicken soup

1/4 teaspoon poultry seasoning

1 can (16.3 oz) Pillsbury™ Grands!™ Home-style refrigerated buttermilk biscuits (8 biscuits)

2 medium carrots, chopped (1 cup)

3 celery ribs, chopped

*30 min prep time

*40 min total time

*7 ingredients

*4 servings

Continued Legislative Updates

SBHB 941 – Effective 9/1/15.

Changes the DNA Testing court cost to \$50 in all cases and revises offenses to which it applies.

90% of the collected fees will be remitted to DPS

to help defray the costs of collecting and

analyzing DNA samples. (Currently, 35% of the

fees that go to the state are directed to the state

highway fund). See arts. 102.020, 102,021, Code

Crim. Proc.; §§ 411.142, 411.1471, Gov't Code. See

also Criminal Law and Procedure.

HB 2398 – Effective 9/1/15 (New fee effective 1/1/16).

Creates a \$50 fee to be paid upon truancy court's finding that child engaged in truant conduct.

Details truancy prevention measures that school

district must employ. See §§ 102.021, 103.021,

103.035, Gov't Code. See also Juvenile Justice.

SB 740 – Effective 9/1/15.

Requires a defendant to pay only one set of court costs for a single criminal action, rather than

separate court costs for two or more offenses or

for multiple counts of the same offense. The

assessment must be based on the highest

category of offense based on the defendant's

convictions. (Does not apply to two or more

offenses punishable by fine only). See art.

102.073, Code Crim. Proc.

If you haven't seen this yet please go to the 84th Legislative –report.

**Face Book Page **

We have started a face book page please share stories or comments and let's see if we can help

each other with issues we may be facing.

Governmental Collectors Association of Texas.

Website.... I am working as hard as I can to get the page updated we are not there yet but will be very soon. Thank you for your patience.