

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

I would like to tell you about one of my courts. It is called "Appeals

Court". You see, any ruling you get from Atascosa County Justice of the Peace Court, or any Atascosa County City's Court can be appealed to "County Appeals Court." The most common case I get is moving traffic tickets from CDL (commercial) drivers. I think I am correct that the courts below mine cannot issue a deferred adjudication on these tickets. The applicants 99% of the time do not try to get out of paying the ticket, but they cannot lose their license, or they lose their livelihood. So, if you have a ticket or any other matter you feel is unfair and/or decided incorrectly this is an option open to you. But if you are guilty and the decision is correct please do not appeal, because that is not a way to get out of a ticket or a correct ruling. Even before I grant the deferred adjudication I question the person and look at the ticket (if that is the case) and determine for myself if the infraction is egregious. By that I mean if the truck driver was way over the speed limit and/or was endangering lives or was a repeat offender I consider rejecting their plea. I have done so on a few occasions. Above all, I try to operate by the "golden rule".

This week's quote, "The way to teach your kids about taxes is to eat 30% of their ice cream?"

Thank you for listening.

We want you to be proud of your county government.