

By law, all instruments to be filed in the Official Public Records of Clay County, Texas:

- **MUST HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURES**

Texas Property Code Sec. 12.0011 (b)

- **MUST BE PROPERLY
ACKNOWLEDGED/ NOTARIZED**

Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Sec. 121.001 (a)

- **MUST HAVE A CLEARLY IDENTIFYING
HEADING/ TITLE OF DOCUMENT**

Local Government Code 191.007 (c)

If no statute authorizes, requires or permits a document to be filed or recorded, the clerk may not accept such a document. For example, unusual papers such as a "Refusal to Pay Property Taxes," a "Declaration of Person Being a Sovereign," a "Surrender of Social Security Card" and a "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" are not to be filed or recorded.

Sec 11.008

Confidential information in real property documents. A deed, mortgage, or deed of trust that transfers an interest in real property to or from an individual must include a confidentiality notice. The notice must appear at the top of the first page of the instrument, in 12-point boldfaced type or 12-point uppercase letters, and read substantially as follows:

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS: IF YOU ARE A NATURAL PERSON, YOU MAY REMOVE OR STRIKE ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM THIS INSTRUMENT BEFORE IT IS FILED FOR RECORD IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS: YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER.

Sec 11.008 (b)

Despite this requirement, the clerk may not reject the instrument for recording solely because it does not contain the confidentiality notice. The clerk is required to post a notice in his or her office informing the public that instruments recorded in the real property or official public records do not need to contain a social security number or driver's license number, and that all such records are available for review by the public.