

# Eviction Appeal for Non-payment of Rent

## Quick Reference Guide

### Important Deadlines

- You have 5 calendar days from the date of your eviction judgment to file your appeal.
- To continue to stay on the property while your appeal is pending, you must pay 1 month's rent (as stated in your judgment) to the J.P. Court within 5 calendar days from the date you filed your appeal.

Statement of Inability to Afford Court Costs (SOI)	Defendant's Answer Form
The SOI is the form you file to appeal.	An answer is a defendant's formal written response to the plaintiff's initial court filing.
You must file your completed SOI form within 5 calendar days from the date of your eviction judgment in the J.P. Court where you had your hearing.	If you did not file an answer before your hearing in the J.P. Court, then you can either (1) file your answer with your appeal documents at the J.P. Court where you had your hearing; or (2) file your answer with the County Court within 8-days of the County Court receiving your appeal.
For more information on the SOI, instructions for completing the form, and to download a copy of the SOI form <a href="#">click here</a> .	For more information on the Defendant's Answer form, instructions for completing the form, and to download a copy of the Defendant's Answer form, <a href="#">click here</a> .

### Filing your Appeal

- *Filing in-person at J.P. Court*

You may wish to call the J.P. Court where you are filing your appeal to see how that precinct handles eviction appeal filings. [Click here for contact information for the Bexar County J.P. courts.](#)

You must file your appeal during the court's business hours. In most cases, the documents you will file for your appeal include the Statement of Inability to Afford Court Costs and Defendant's Answer form.

- *Serving the Defendant's Answer Form*

You will need to serve (send) a copy of your completed Answer Form to your landlord or landlord's representative. Look at the eviction petition (the document the constable served on you) to see if the Plaintiff consented to email service. If they did, send a copy of your Answer to the email address provided on the lawsuit.

**Disclaimer:** These instructions are for informational purposes only and do not themselves constitute legal advice.

If the Plaintiff did not consent to email service, or you are unsure, you may wish to send a copy of the completed Answer to your landlord by USPS certified mail. For more information on serving your Answer, [click here.](#) [OBJ.]