

DEFENDANT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER

CAUSE NUMBER: _____

PLAINTIFF § IN THE JUSTICE COURT

VS § PRECINCT 1

DEFENDANT § WOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

WARNING: You do not have to hire a lawyer. However, we recommend that you talk to a lawyer before filling out this form. You may accidentally give up important legal rights if you file this form with the Court without first talking to a lawyer. For help finding a lawyer, call your local lawyer referral service. If you do not have enough money to hire a lawyer to take your whole case, you can hire a layer just to give you advice and help you fill-out this form. This is called Limited Scope Representation. You may also be able to talk to a lawyer for free at a legal advice clinic. For help finding a free legal advice clinic, go to www.TexasLawHelp.org.

INSTRUCTIONS: If you decide to use this *Defendant's Original Answer* form:

- Fill it out completely and sign it.
- File (*turn in*) your completed answer form at the Courthouse where the *Petition* was filed.
- It does not cost anything to file an answer.
- If you have been served, you have a limited time to file an answer. Counting from the day you were served, you have 14 days to file an answer. If the 14th day is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the answer is due on the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. If the 14th day falls on a day during which the court is closed before 5:00 p.m., the answer is due on the court's next business day. If you do not file an answer by the deadline, the Plaintiff can ask the court to enter a default judgment against you.
- Keep a copy of your answer for your records
- Send a copy to the Plaintiff's lawyer or to the Plaintiff if s/he is not represented by a lawyer.

Defendant's Information

My name is _____, I am the Defendant in this Case.
(PRINT your full name.)

The last three numbers of my driver's license number is ___ ___ ___ My driver's license was issued in (state) _____.
Or I do not have a driver's license number.

The last three numbers of my social security number is ___ ___ _____.
Or I do not have a social security number.

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, _____, Defendant in the above styled and numbered cause, and makes and files this, it's Original Answer, and respectfully shows:
