



El Paso County
Public Defender Plan
– Federal –
Memorandum of Understanding

THE EL PASO CRIMINAL MAGISTRATE PROCEDURES

Whereas, the City of El Paso has funded the position of a magistrate whose primary duties are to perform magistrate functions at the El Paso Court Jail until September 1, 1987, and;

Whereas, there is a need to centralize the early appointment of attorneys for indigent defendants and to impliment the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and County Judge of El Paso County and the El Paso Bar Association.

Therefore, the following procedures are established by agreement between the State District Judges of El Paso County, the County Court at Law Judges of El Paso County and the City of El Paso to be used by the El Paso Jail Magistrate.

I. The duties of the Magistrate are to make probable cause determinations for the issuance of arrest warrants and for individuals being placed in jail after having been arrested without a warrant; to set bonds for individuals placed in the El Paso County jail; to appoint counsel for indigent defendants in the El Paso County jail; to inform each accused brought before him of his "Miranda" and other warnings required by the Texas Rules of Criminal Procedures; and to conduct examining trials.