

BAIL BOND IN TEXAS

5 TYPES OF FELONY CRIMES REQUIRING A BAIL BOND

01

Capital Felony

The most severe felony type in Texas is the capital one. A person who is convicted of this charge faces the possibility of the death penalty. If the death penalty is not sought after, they can face a life sentence. A life sentence for anyone 18 and older means no possibility of parole. Two prime examples of Texas capital felonies are:

- Capital felony murder (Penal Code 19.03(a)(2))
- Capital murder (Penal Code 19.03)

02

First-Degree Felony

Texas law classifies first-degree felonies as the second most severe kind of crime, with a conviction that could result in life in prison. The minimum penalty is five years in jail, with the chance of a \$10,000 fine also imposed on the defendant in the county. A Better Bail Bond is a reliable and discreet bail bond company with four Houston area locations

Some first-degree examples are:

- Attempted murder (Penal Code 19.03)
- Arson causing death (Penal Code 28.02)
- Aggravated robbery (Penal Code 29.03)

03

Second-Degree Felony

A second-degree felony conviction can result in a two to 20-year sentence in jail and a possible \$10,000 fine. Several second-degree felony examples include:

- Manslaughter (Penal Code 19.04),
- Aggravated assault (Penal Code 22.02),
- Robbery (Penal Code 29.02), and
- Arson (Penal Code 28.02)

04

Third-Degree Felony

In Texas, third-degree felonies are near the bottom of the severity type. According to our lead bondsmen located in Harris County, a third-degree felony conviction can net a defendant up to 10 years in jail with a minimum two-year mandatory jail time. The conviction may also mean a fine of no more than \$10,000. Third-degree felony examples include:

- Indecent exposure to a child (Penal Code 21.11),
- Tampering with evidence (Penal Code 37.09),
- Deadly conduct with a firearm (Penal Code 22.05), and
- Stalking (Penal Code 42.072)

04

Texas State Jail Felony

The least serious felony type is the state jail felony, which can have a sentence of 180 days to 2 years, and a fine of up to \$10,000. Some examples of this kind of felony include:

- Check forgery (Penal Code 32.21(d)),
- Theft of between \$2,500 and \$30,000 (Penal Code 31.03),
- Child endangerment DWI (Penal Code 49.045), and
- Any criminal statute listed as a felony but does not specify which degree

A defendant's state jail felony can be changed to a third-degree felony in three critical instances:

- Certain kinds of previous convictions
- Crime involved a deadly weapon of some type
- Two previous state jail felony convictions

State jail felonies may also be classified as Class A misdemeanors, with judges given the ability to decrease the state jail sentences to no more than a year.

In some cases, certain misdemeanors are upgraded to a felony if there is a prior criminal history. A defendant could get a felony probation sentence rather than jail time.

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