

NOV 02 2021

ORDER 17,101

BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING OF
POLITICAL BOUNDARIES**

The Commissioners Court is the governing body of Hunt County, Texas, meeting in a duly scheduled and posted meeting, does hereby adopt the following criteria for use in the redistricting of all county political boundaries. Any plan for the redistricting of representative members of the Commissioners Court of the Hunt County should, to the maximum extent possible, conform to the following criteria:

1. The plan should ensure that all applicable provisions of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, the Voting Rights Act, the Texas Election Code are honored.
2. The plan should be drawn in such a manner that the maximum deviation from an ideal size, as determined by dividing the total population of the county divided by four (the number of single member districts that compose the Commissioners Court of Hunt County, by not more than five (5%) percent for any single precinct, or a total top to bottom deviation (percentage of deviation below and above the ideal size) of not more than ten (10%) percent.
3. The plan should address minority representation, and if at all possible, in conformity with constitutional standards, avoid retrogression in the percentage of population and voting age demographics consistent with existing minority representation.
4. The plan should, avoid fragmentation and preserve minority communities of interest to the maximum extent possible. These communities of interest should be recognized and retained intact where possible. Only when the overall minority population of the county is sufficiently large to require more than one minority district should minority populations be divided, and only then to the least degree possible.
5. The plan should not, however, attempt to unreasonably join geographically remote minority populations into a single precinct unless there are strong and genuine connections between these communities as reflected by common schools, churches, or cultural ties. For example, minority populations in two separate towns, located miles apart, may not have sufficient links or common political cohesion to justify joining these two minority population centers into a single electoral group. Particularly when dealing with distinct minority groups, such as Black and Hispanic populations, a general assumption that separate minority populations will vote in a "block" may be unsupportable in fact.

6. The plan should seek compact and contiguous political boundaries. Physical boundaries of cultural or economic significance, such as rivers, multi-laned control access highways or turnpikes, which tend to divide populations in fundamental ways, should be recognized and where possible, should only serve as necessary to achieve recognized objectives. To the maximum extent possible, clearly recognized boundaries, such as streets and highways, should be used to facilitate ease of voter identification of boundaries, as well as election administration.
7. Where possible, well-recognized and long used election precinct boundaries should be retained intact (within the limitations imposed by state and federal law) or with as little alteration as possible.
8. Election precincts in the plan should be sized in conformity with state law. For example, in counties that use traditional, hand counted paper ballots, no election precinct may contain more than 2000 voters. In counties with voting systems that allow for automated ballot counting, this number may be increased to as many as 5000 registered voters.
9. The plan should afford incumbent office holders with the assurance that they will continue to represent the majority of individuals who elected these incumbents, and all incumbents' residential locations should be retained in their reformed precincts to ensure continuity in leadership during the remaining term of incumbents to the extent possible.
10. The plan should address fundamental and necessary governmental functions, and to the extent possible, ensure that these functions are enhanced rather than impaired. For example, county road mileage should be balanced to the extent possible between the resulting commissioner's precincts. Election administration should not be unduly complex as a result of election boundaries.
11. The plan should ensure that election voting precincts under that plan do not contain territory from more than one commissioner's precinct, justice precinct, congressional district, state representative district, state senatorial district and state Board of Education. Although no longer required, city election wards should be honored in virtually all circumstances, with city and rural county voters being kept in separate voting precincts to the extent possible. Where they exist, other special election districts, such as water, hospital, or navigation districts, should be structured in a manner to provide to the greatest extent possible the harmonious administration of various election jurisdictions.

12. The plan should attempt to locate polling places in convenient, well-known locations that are accessible to disabled voters to the maximum extent possible. Public buildings should be utilized to the maximum extent possible as polling places. Where necessary, buildings routinely open to the public, such as churches, retail businesses, or private buildings dedicated to public activities, can be used as polling places.
13. If the reduction of polling places can be accomplished, without impinging upon voter convenience and minority voting rights, such reductions can be considered.
14. Citizen input should be encouraged, but in order to minimize cost and to have sufficient information to evaluate such proposals fairly, the County will only consider proposed plans submitted to the County for evaluation by individual citizens or groups if the proposed plan is submitted to the County in a commonly used GIS format, such as .SHP, .MAP, .KLM, .GPX, .MDB, along with maps and demographic data sufficient to address voting rights concerns.

The foregoing criteria are deemed to be illustrative, but not exclusive, examples of fundamentally important issues, which should be considered in any redistricting plan. Therefore, the Commissioners Court expresses its intention to measure any plan submitted for consideration by this set of criteria, and to base any eventual exercise of discretion upon the foregoing criteria.

The criteria approved this date were considered in open Court, following posting not less than 72 hours before any action taken on the same. Upon motion by Hutchins, second by Harrison/Martin, the Commissioners Court of Hunt County hereby adopts the criteria set forth herein by a vote of 4 to 1.

Signed this 2nd day of November, 2021.



County Judge

Attest:



County Clerk

17.101 (1)

ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

Attorneys at Law

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FILED FOR RECORD
at 11:30 o'clock A M

October 1, 2021

NOV 02 2021

VIA EMAIL & REGULAR MAIL

Honorable Bobby Stovall
Hunt County Judge
Hunt County Courthouse
2507 Lee St., 2nd Floor
Greenville, Texas 75401
bstovall@huntcounty.net

BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.
By 

Re: Hunt County Redistricting

Dear Judge Stovall and Commissioners:

You will find attached to this letter our initial assessment of your existing political boundaries, based upon population data extracted from the 2020 Census.

Based upon these numbers, Hunt County will be legally required to redistrict the Commissioners Court Precincts in 2020. The total maximum deviation between the largest and smallest existing precincts in terms of population, can be found under Tab B of the Initial Assessment.

As long as this number is below 10%, you are not legally obligated to redraw your political boundaries. The Total Maximum Deviation for Hunt County, based upon the 2020 Census, is 27.12%. Consequently, you will be obligated to go forward with redistricting.

I am enclosing an appropriate Order for your consideration (Order for Redistricting Political Boundaries). I would like to discuss the results of our initial assessment, and the steps that will follow from this point forward. I will contact you to set up a special meeting of Commissioners Court to review the initial assessment and review the political boundaries and census block data to re-balance the population to more equal terms.

I have provided suggested language for posting this special meeting of Commissioners Court.

"To receive & provide information, evaluate demographics and take possible action regarding redistricting of County political boundaries."

Additionally, I recommend the aforementioned agenda item also be provided in Spanish and included on the agenda for the special meeting of Commissioners Court. A sample

October 1, 2021

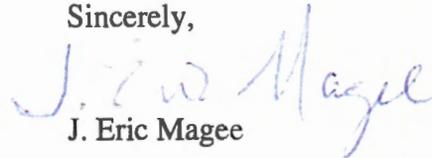
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translation is provided below, please verify that the agenda item includes the proper Spanish version.

"Para recibir y proporcionar información, evaluar los datos demográficos y tomar medidas posibles redistribución de los límites políticos del condado. "

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Eric Magee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

J. Eric Magee

JEM/jm

Enclosures: Initial Assessment Packet
Proposed Order

cc: Hunt County Commissioners Court Members
County Clerk Jennifer Lindenzweig jlindenzweig@huntcounty.net

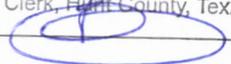
17,101 (2)

Jessica Sims

From: Eric Magee <e.magee@allison-bass.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:42 PM
To: County Judge; Jessica Sims
Subject: Hunt County Redistricting

FILED FOR RECORD
at 11:30 o'clock A M

NOV 02 2021

BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.
By 

Judge Stovall and Ms. Sims:

As we discussed, please accept this email as confirmation of the Commissioners Court Special Meeting for Redistricting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Please find below the agenda item to accomplish (1) Order Establishing Criteria for Redistricting; (2) Order to Redistrict and (3) begin the process of evaluating and redrawing the political boundaries. If possible, I propose all of these actions can be accomplished by the below agenda item:

To receive & provide information, evaluate demographics, take action to establish criteria for redistricting and take possible action regarding redistricting of County political boundaries.

Spanish version should also be included, see below:

Para recibir y proporcionar información, evaluar la demografía, tomar medidas para establecer criterios para la redistribución de distritos y tomar medidas posibles con respecto a la redistribución de los límites políticos del condado.

Once the agenda is posted, please send me a copy of the agenda.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

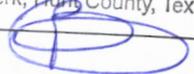
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17,101 (3)

FILED FOR RECORD
at 11:30 o'clock A M

NOV 02 2021

BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.
By 

**INITIAL ASSESSMENT
OF
HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS
FOR PURPOSES OF REDISTRICTING EVALUATION**

Prepared by

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TAB A: Initial Assessment

The Initial Assessment is a narrative analysis of the data contained in the PL94-171 files provided by the Census Bureau, together with an explanation of the impact such data may have upon the County in light of state and federal law.

TAB B: Statistical Definitions and Determination of Total Maximum Deviation

Definitions of the various ratios, formula and procedures utilized in the analysis of county population. These ratios, formula and procedures have been largely developed in case law in the field of redistricting, together with generally recognized methods of sociological study.

NOTE: Prison inmate populations are included in the census data. However, inmates detained under felony convictions are not eligible to vote under Texas law. As such, populations of inmates held within the state prison system, either in state owned and operated facilities, or under contract in county facilities, are typically not counted in the determination of Total Maximum Deviation, or for other “one-person-one-vote” determinations. For purposes of the Initial Assessment, raw data has been acquired from the County and/or the Department of Criminal Justice regarding prison populations, and from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for persons held pending immigration cases. In subsequent census data releases, group housing data may reveal more specific information, but at this time, we are deducting prison populations from county population totals in order to arrive at a true “one-person-one-vote” analysis, and to avoid potential imbalances in population that might result of inclusion of prison population in precinct totals. County jails holding persons convicted of both felony and misdemeanor offenses, juvenile facilities, or facilities holding individuals pending resolution of pending criminal or immigration charges are included within the population counts for the county, as reflected in the census data.

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The working file is a demographic analysis of each major County elective office elected from geographic precincts. These files analyze the population demographics of each precinct based elective office, i.e. the offices of County Commissioner, and Justice of the Peace/Constable precincts. Prior to the 1990 census, previously existing election precinct boundaries were often described by non-physical boundaries. Since the use of computerized census maps was first implemented in 1990, based upon topological maps which contain not only physical boundaries, such as roads, streets, streams and water bodies, but also such “non-physical boundaries” as easements, municipal boundaries or other surveyed lines, but not visible on the ground, it was necessary to merely “approximate” those boundaries that were not defined by a physical boundary such as a road, watercourse, or other physical boundary. These approximations were described as Voter Tabulation Districts, or VTDs. It should be

noted that the VTD was only approximation of the actual voting boundaries, since Public Law 94-171 requires that the VTD utilize census blocks as its component parts.

In 1990, most counties adopted election boundaries based on census blocks, but VTDs are still encountered. The boundaries utilized in this Initial Assessment are derived from the Texas Legislative Council, and have been, to the extent possible, confirmed as accurate by local officials. However, some counties continue to have election precinct boundaries defined in a manner that is incompatible with census block-based mapping. Therefore, in some cases, you may find a discrepancy between the actual boundary in use, and the census block-based mapping boundaries used in this report. All future election precincts should be based upon census blocks to avoid any discrepancy between the actual boundary in use and the official boundary description maintained by the Texas Legislative Council.

County demographic data is depicted in chart and graphic form for both total county population as well as voting age population. While "One-Person-One-Vote" balance between the four Commissioners Court Precincts is based upon the entire county population, the availability of voting age populations is also important in two respects.

First, each county should assess the size of existing election precincts. State law limits the size of election precincts of not less than 100 registered voters, and not more than 5,000 registered voters per election precinct. (See §42.006, Texas Election Code, V.T.S.C.A), with some exceptions based on the size of each county population.

Second, in counties inhabited by a significant minority population, the need to create one or more Commissioners Court Precincts that assure minority representation requires utilization of voting age information. While the actual political boundaries will be based upon total population, the viability of the resulting precinct in terms of the ability to elect requires analysis of voting age population.

TAB C: Maps

The following maps depict county populations by census block. It should be noted that in some census blocks, the total population may be very small, and the resulting color shading may therefore result in some misperception of actual population totals.

Correlation of the map depiction with the data contained in the PL94-171 is necessary to assure accuracy of any assumptions or projections for reapportionment purposes. All computer-generated matters contained in this report, including statistical ratios or formulas, are derived from information taken directly from the Public Law 94-171 files of the United States Census Bureau. Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP shall not be responsible for errors that may occur in the PL94-171 data.

Map 1: Depiction of Existing Commissioners
 Court Precincts-County wide

Map 2: Voting or Election Districts-County Wide

Map 2: Hispanic population

Map 3: Black population

Map 4: Other Non-Anglo Population
(Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Other or Multi-racial categories in excess of 3% aggregate. Few Texas counties will have this level of "other" Non-Anglo population. If your county does not have more than 3% of "other non-Anglo population, there will be no Map 4)

Map 5: Justice/Constable Precincts

Map 5 depicts the Justice of the Peace/Constable Precincts, and the respective election precincts of each such Justice/Constable precinct. Reference should be made to Appendix B for demographic analysis of Justice/Constable precincts. It should be noted that the offices of Justice of the Peace and Constable are not considered as representative offices, and are therefore not legally required to comply with either "One-Person-One-Vote" balance or "representative" analysis under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. (42 U.S.C. 1973c) Counties are not required, therefore, to make any changes to existing justice or constable precincts by federal law. However, Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution sets population requirements for the number of justice precincts required. Each County should carefully examine the number of justice precincts required by law to determine if a reduction or expansion of existing justice/constable precincts is feasible. If changes are made to Justice/Constable precincts, either directly or as a result of modification of the election precincts that make up the Justice/Constable precinct, a voting rights analysis under the Voting Rights Act is required.

TAB A

INITIAL ASSESSMENT
NARRATIVE

**INITIAL ASSESSMENT
OF
HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS
POLITICAL BOUNDARIES
FOR
PURPOSES OF REDISTRICTING**

By

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Following the Supreme Court decision in *Avery v. Midland County*, 390 U.S. 474; 88 S. Ct. 1114, 20 L. Ed. 2d 45 (1968), Texas Commissioners Courts have been required to make a periodic assessment of their political boundaries to determine whether the boundaries retain "one-person-one-vote" balance. This requirement is now carried forward by statutory requirement in Article 42.001 of the Texas Election Code.

Therefore, following each federal census, each Texas County should conduct an assessment of existing political boundaries. As a very general rule of thumb, any statistical change of population between the 2010 and 2020 census more than 3%, plus or minus, will indicate a potential need for reapportionment. Only in rare circumstances will a county experiencing a population change in excess of 3% avoid the need for rather extensive reapportionment of the county Commissioners Court precinct lines. However, any assumption that a population change of less than 3% will not require reapportionment is ill advised. Populations will shift within a county over time. Every County, even those with a rather insignificant overall population change, should carefully examine actual population demographics relative to their existing political lines to determine the need for reapportionment.

It should be carefully noted that simple comparisons between the county population of 2010 and 2020, or even a more sophisticated analysis of urban and rural areas of the county might not reflect the true extent of population "change" each County has experienced over the last ten years. "Change" may not directly correlate to "different" or "new" population. For example, existing populations within a county move considerably within a ten-year span. The movement of a single family a rural area to an urban area within the same county will impact both categories, and where that move crosses political boundaries, may have a significant impact on the obligation of that County to redistrict.

Efforts to balance road mileage, or to achieve other entirely practical adjustments of county boundaries must be undertaken with great care to avoid unintended shifts of population which will either exceed the required numerical balance, or will offend the Voting Rights Act.

With this general overview, the following sections of this Initial Assessment will evaluate each layer of Hunt County's political boundaries and attempt to determine whether or not the Commissioners Court should undertake reapportionment. Our assessment will point out areas of potential conflict with state and federal law, and will also suggest areas that may be considered for purposes of cost effectiveness and voter/resident convenience.

INITIAL SUMMARY FINDINGS REGARDING NUMERICAL BALANCE:

Please review the information contained under Tab B carefully. Please pay particular attention to the following:

1. Please consider the Total Maximum Deviation in terms of population between the Actual Population of each Commissioners Court Precinct and the Ideal Population. Remember that the ideal population of each precinct is exactly one-quarter of the total county population.
2. Next, consider the Relative Deviation, expressed as a percentage, of the Actual Population of each precinct as compared to the Ideal Population of each precinct.
3. Redistricting will be necessary to comply with 'One-Person-One-Vote' standards if the Total Maximum Deviation between the largest precinct and the smallest precinct (in terms of population) exceeds 10%.
4. Therefore, carefully examine the Total Maximum Deviation calculation. If that number is more than 10%, Hunt County is legally obligated to make changes in its political boundaries to re-balance the population to more equal terms.
5. If the Total Maximum Deviation exceeds approximately 7%, you may want to consider redistricting in order to re-balance your boundaries, although you are not legally required to do so at this time.
6. If the eventual resulting Total Maximum Deviation is below 5%, you are generally safe from legal challenge on a "one-person-one-vote" basis for the next few years.

MINORITY VOTING RIGHTS

As a general rule, where the total minority percentage exceeds 25% of the total population, there is ample justification to create a commissioner's precinct that contains a potential voting majority of minority residents. In concentrations greater than 40%, consideration should be given to creating at least one commissioner's precinct with a potential voting majority of minority residents, with the possibility of any "excess population" being used to impact one or more other precincts. Where the total minority concentration exceeds 40%, the issue of "Packing" becomes a consideration, meaning that minority populations cannot be "packed" into a single precinct, but must be allowed to influence as many precincts as the total minority population warrants without efforts to fragment otherwise contiguous concentrations of minority population.

Please examine the demographic data contained under Tab B very carefully.

With the racial profile outlined under Tab B, minority representation must not be diluted, and where possible, a voting majority of minority residents should be created. In order to achieve the maximum minority representation within the demographic and geographic limitations in existence, it will be necessary to determine which election precincts, and which census blocks, contain the highest percentage of minority population and to take such reasonable measures as will insure the highest possible minority voice in county government. To achieve this goal, some attention must be paid to voting age minority residents. Again, please review the data contained under Tab B. In order to create a viable voting majority of ethnic, race or language minority voters, it is necessary to attain a voting age population within at least one Commissioners Court precinct of approximately 55% or better. In order to accomplish this high number of voting age population, a total population figure in excess of 60% is typically required.

Please examine Tab B to determine the minority population of each of the four Commissioners Court precincts. A determination of whether or not the minority populations in these precincts could be joined in a single precinct, or perhaps concentrated in an effort to maximize minority impact upon elections is difficult to assess without a more detailed evaluation of historical voting patterns, racial demographics, and the realities of political boundaries.

When taken with the numerical imbalances that must be addressed, it would appear that if at all possible, minority populations might be concentrated in at least one Commissioners Court precinct to the degree possible to achieve an acceptable potential minority concentration. Typically, the Commissioners Precinct with the largest minority concentration prior to redrawing lines is the best candidate for any alternative plan, but other possible constructions of precinct lines might well result in a favorable racial profile.

Fragmenting minority population concentrations must be avoided. Any modification of political boundaries to accomplish compliance with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act must be carefully considered.

ASSESSMENT OF JUSTICE OF PEACE AND CONSTABLE PRECINCTS

Please see Map 5 for a description of existing Justice of the Peace and Constable Precincts in Hunt County.

Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitutional provides that each county of the State having a population of 50,000 or more shall be divided into not less than four and not more than eight precincts. Counties having a population of less than 18,000 shall be composed of a single justice/constable precinct, unless the Commissioners Court determines that not more than four such justice/constable precincts are needed. Counties having a population of less than 150,000, but which contain a city having a population of 18,000 or more inhabitants, shall provide for not less than two justices of the peace to service the city(s) having 18,000 or more inhabitants.

In each precinct so created, there shall be elected a Justice of the Peace and a Constable, each of whom shall hold office for four years.

Within the context of these Constitutional provisions, it is recommended that Hunt County reconsider the actual need for justice/constable precincts, and consider whether that need suggests change in the present configuration of justice/constable precincts. Article 292.001 Local Government Code and Article 27.051, Government Code address the location of Justice of the Peace courts. In counties having a population of less than 50,000, the County Commissioners Court may locate the justice courts either in the precinct served that justice court, or may centralize the courts in the County courthouse. In counties having a population greater than 50,000, the justice courts must be physically located in the precinct they serve.

ASSESSMENT OF ELECTION PRECINCTS

Election Precincts are the building blocks for all other political boundaries. Therefore, our assessment begins with this primary political unit. According to Article 42.006, Texas Election Code, V.A.C.S., each election precinct must contain not fewer than 50 registered voters and not more than 5000 registered voters. (Exceptions apply depending upon county population). For the Initial Assessment, no attempt has been made to acquire actual registered voter information. In this preliminary assessment, a formulative approach will be used. For purposes of the Initial Assessment, we make some assumptions that allow us to estimate the highest probable number of registered voters that might reside within an election precinct. Using the voting age population demographic information contained in Appendix B, we assume that the percentage of actual registered voters would never exceed 70% of the total "eligible" voters over the age of 18 years. This assumption will generally hold true, but in some isolated cases, the actual number of registered voters may exceed 70% of total eligible voters.

Reducing the number of election precincts, where appropriate, lowers the overall costs of elections, but this reduction must be coupled with other factors, such as automated vote counting, in order to ensure that election returns can be quickly and accurately tabulated in the resulting larger election precincts. With automated vote counting systems, smaller polling place staff can accommodate larger numbers of voters, and achieve overall reductions in the costs of elections.

Current election precincts are generally acceptable. However, as the boundaries of the Commissioners Court precincts are altered to accommodate "one-person-one-vote" and Voting Rights Act changes, there will be incidental modification to your existing election precincts in most areas. In addition, you may wish to make other changes in existing election precincts to accommodate state law requirements regarding the number of voters permitted in election precinct, or to address other issues of local concern. As the process continues, we will discuss these issues with you for your guidance.

CONSOLIDATION FACTORS

A limiting factor in wholesale consolidation of county election precincts will be the restraints imposed by Art. 42.005, Texas Election Code, V.A.C.S., which restricts county election precincts to that territory which does not contain more than one commissioner's precinct, justice precinct, congressional district, state representative district, state senatorial district, or a State Board of Education District. It is also recommended that residents of a municipality be in separate election precincts from rural voters, for purposes of conducting city elections.

In any plan for county election precincts within a city having single member election districts, city ward lines must be followed to prevent a violation of state law. Therefore, all cities within the county should be encouraged to participate and cooperate in the reapportionment process.

Although state law does not require the county election precincts to conform to independent school district election precincts, if Hunt County serves as the election's administrator for other jurisdiction's elections, it only makes prudent sense to consult with each political entity to make sure your county election precincts are compatible with city or school single-member districts.

GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

Some attention should be given to "straightening" political boundaries into more uniform shape. In some cases, certain election precincts may be altered to use a more commonly understood or recognized physical boundary in lieu of a poorly identified or recognized boundary. Public Law 94-171, which directed the Census Bureau to develop a uniform mapping and demographic profiling approach for use by small personal computers, required that all voter tabulation districts (VTDs) follow census block boundaries. In many cases, county voting districts had been previously drawn in a manner that did not follow a census block boundary. This required the State of Texas, acting in conjunction with the State Data Center and the Texas Legislative Council, to move the actual voting district boundary to coincide with a nearby census block boundary for tabulation purposes only. The resulting VTD was no longer "actual," but an approximation referred to as a "pseudo-voting district."

Every reasonable effort has been made to conform the pseudo voting district to actual VTD boundaries. However, due to the nature of the available data base, and the requirements of Public Law 94-171, there may be occasions in which the pseudo voting districts, or the resulting lines between commissioner's court precincts, are different from those that actually exist. Again, the use of the pseudo voting district was for tabulation purposes only, and any apparent difference between actual and apparent political lines should be considered as minimal. However, since all later census counts were undertaken upon the census blocks, there could be a valid argument that a necessity to alter current election district boundaries to match the census block format exists. Under these circumstances, new political lines will be required to avoid conflict with census block lines that do not match current political area definitions. While matching census blocks to actual political lines would not, in and of itself, generally support a decision to reapportion under the circumstances that exist in Hunt County, there is a justifiable combination of factors that would support a reapportionment decision. These factors would include:

1. Redrawing election precincts to increase voter convenience.
2. Consolidation of election precincts where practicable.
3. Resizing election precincts to achieve greater efficiency.

4. Harmonizing actual political lines with pseudo voting districts based upon census blocks.
5. Redrawing all lines to achieve “one-person-one-vote” deviations of the smallest possible percentage.

CONCLUSION

While the primary task of reapportionment will concentrate on the issue of numerical balance and minority representation in the formation of commissioners’ court precincts, other valuable improvements could also be achieved in the political well-being of Hunt County by redrawing existing lines. The method and manner by which these less direct goals are accomplished is a responsibility imposed upon the Commissioners Court beyond those expressly required by the Voting Rights Act or the Constitution, but which may have just as much value to the general public. Cost efficiency and voter convenience in elections that might be achieved by a serious evaluation of election precincts, and the elimination of unnecessary confusion by cooperation with other governmental entities are only two of the benefits that might be achieved by reapportionment beyond the legal duties required by law.

Another issue that should be considered is the actual need for Justice of the Peace/Constable Precincts. While local demand for Justice/Constable services may well justify the current number of justice courts, the cost of maintenance and administration of these particular governmental offices should be carefully evaluated. However, state law may limit a county’s ability to reduce the number of Justice/Constable precincts.

Finally, the county should consider a wholesale renumbering of its election precincts in order to simplify future elections. Consolidation should be considered where possible, subject to limitations imposed by state law and were possible by agreement with any Independent School Districts in the County.

Redistricting should be viewed as an opportunity for streamlining county organization, and a chance to address as many issues as possible to achieve greater participation and involvement in county government. This is the time to plan for future growth, anticipate costs of government operations, and to involve the public in the process of county government. We look forward to working with you in this exacting but rewarding process.

ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

TAB B

DETERMINATION OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DEVIATION And POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS BY PRECINCT

COMMISSIONER'S COURT PRECINCTS

Initial Analysis
Hunt County, Texas

	Actual Pop.	Ideal Pop.	Deviate	Relative Deviation
Precinct 1	23116	24989	-1873	-7.50%
Precinct 2	29893	24989	4904	19.62%
Precinct 3	23522	24989	-1467	-5.87%
Precinct 4	23425	24989	-1564	-6.26%
Total	99956	99956		
Total Maximum Deviation	27.12 %			

Total Maximum Deviation above 10%
requires redistricting

Maximum Deviation less than than 5% is
desireable if possible.

Ethnic/Racial Data-Total

	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	14546	2193	138	218	4885	28	88	1020	23116	23.13%
Precinct 2	20793	1053	229	286	6164	17	52	1299	29893	29.91%
Precinct 3	18523	442	176	166	2907	15	78	1215	23522	23.53%
Precinct 4	11736	4124	179	309	5717	91	83	1186	23425	23.44%
Total	65598	7812	722	979	19673	151	301	4720	99956	100%
% of County	65.63%	7.82%	0.72%	0.98%	19.68%	0.15%	0.30%	4.72%	100%	

Ethnic %

Precinct 1	62.93%	9.49%	0.60%	0.94%	21.13%	0.12%	0.38%	4.41%	100.00%
Precinct 2	69.56%	3.52%	0.77%	0.96%	20.62%	0.06%	0.17%	4.35%	100.00%
Precinct 3	78.75%	1.88%	0.75%	0.71%	12.36%	0.06%	0.33%	5.17%	100.00%
Precinct 4	50.10%	17.61%	0.76%	1.32%	24.41%	0.39%	0.35%	5.06%	100.00%

Voting Age Ethnic/Racial Data

	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	11764	1635	109	171	3097	17	56	649	17498	22.98%
Precinct 2	16178	758	176	220	3795	12	38	845	22022	28.92%
Precinct 3	15128	353	149	141	1811	4	55	830	18471	24.26%
Precinct 4	9692	3370	168	279	3675	66	61	841	18152	23.84%
Total	52762	6116	602	811	12378	99	210	3165	76143	100%
% of County	69.29%	8.03%	0.79%	1.07%	16.26%	0.13%	0.28%	4.16%	100%	

Voting Age %

Precinct 1	67.23%	9.34%	0.62%	0.98%	17.70%	0.10%	0.32%	3.71%	100.00%
Precinct 2	73.46%	3.44%	0.80%	1.00%	17.23%	0.05%	0.17%	3.84%	100.00%
Precinct 3	81.90%	1.91%	0.81%	0.76%	9.80%	0.02%	0.30%	4.49%	100.00%
Precinct 4	53.39%	18.57%	0.93%	1.54%	20.25%	0.36%	0.34%	4.63%	100.00%

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE/CONSTABLE PRECINCTS

JP-Initial Analysis
Hunt County, Texas

	Actual Pop.	Ideal Pop.	Deviate	Relative Deviation
Precinct 1	56200	24989	31211	124.90%
Precinct 2	12684	24989	-12305	-49.24%
Precinct 3	6026	24989	-18963	-75.89%
Precinct 4	25046	24989	57	0.23%
Total	99956	99956		
Total Maximum Deviation	125.13%			

Total Maximum Deviation above 10%
requires redistricting

Maximum Deviation less than than 5% is
desireable if possible.

Ethnic/Racial Data-Total

	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	34580	4664	334	589	13292	53	180	2508	56200	56.22%
Precinct 2	7174	2595	113	263	1630	77	54	778	12684	12.69%
Precinct 3	4680	221	54	12	751	2	12	294	6026	6.03%
Precinct 4	19164	332	221	115	4000	19	55	1140	25046	25.06%
Total	65598	7812	722	979	19673	151	301	4720	99956	100.00%
% of County	65.63%	7.82%	0.72%	0.98%	19.68%	0.15%	0.30%	4.72%		

Ethnic %

Precinct 1	61.53%	8.30%	0.59%	1.05%	23.65%	0.09%	0.32%	4.46%	100.00%
Precinct 2	56.56%	20.46%	0.89%	2.07%	12.85%	0.61%	0.43%	6.13%	100.00%
Precinct 3	77.66%	3.67%	0.90%	0.20%	12.46%	0.03%	0.20%	4.88%	100.00%
Precinct 4	76.52%	1.33%	0.88%	0.46%	15.97%	0.08%	0.22%	4.55%	100.00%

Voting Age Ethnic/Racial Data

	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	27353	3482	266	469	8284	34	116	1574	41578	54.61%
Precinct 2	6038	2212	106	236	1124	54	44	597	10411	13.67%
Precinct 3	3723	176	45	10	462	2	10	185	4613	6.06%
Precinct 4	15648	246	185	96	2508	9	40	809	19541	25.66%
Total	52762	6116	602	811	12378	99	210	3165	76143	100%
% of County	69.29%	8.03%	0.79%	1.07%	16.26%	0.13%	0.28%	4.16%		

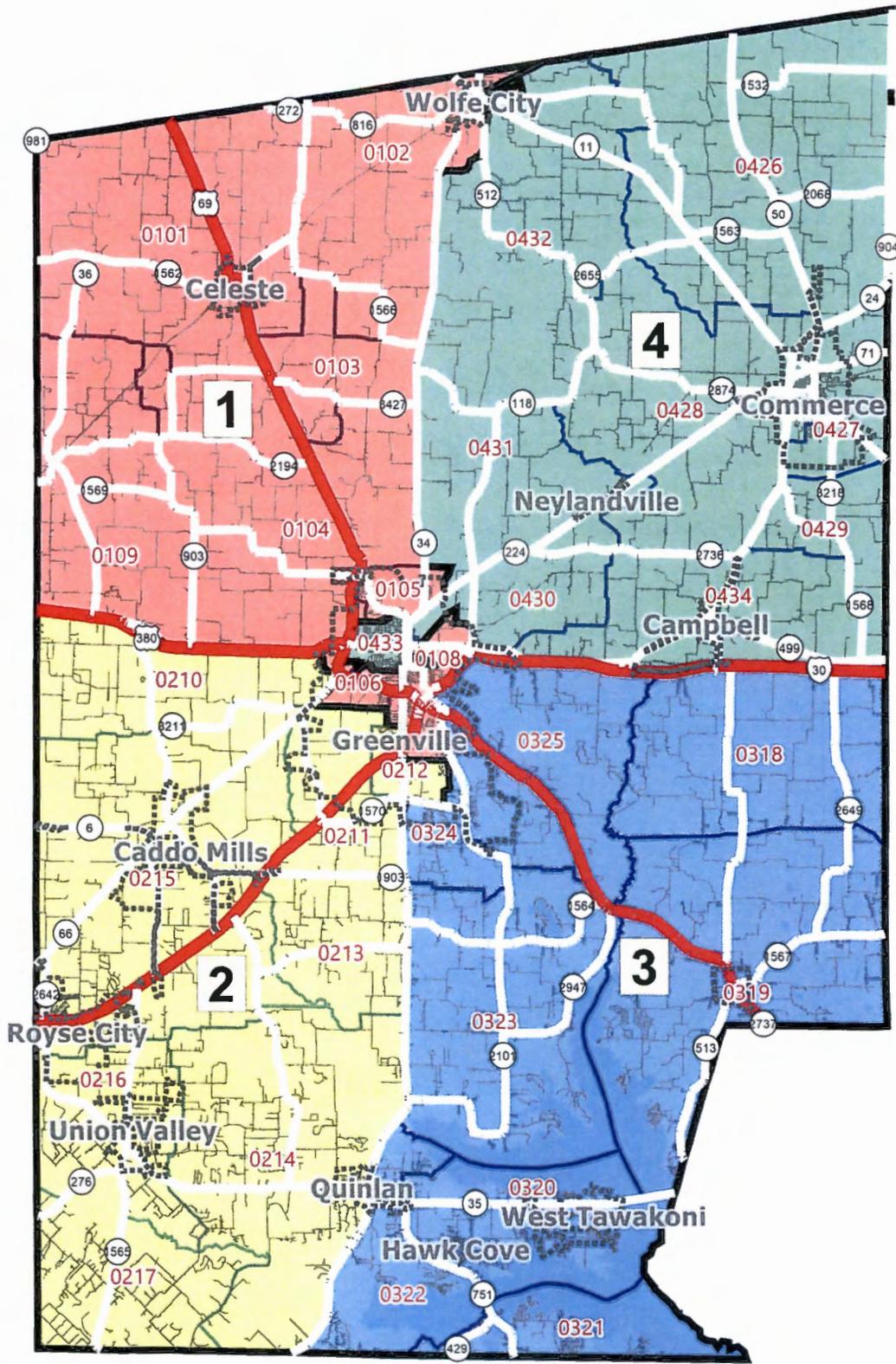
Voting Age %

Precinct 1	65.79%	8.37%	0.64%	1.13%	19.92%	0.08%	0.28%	3.79%	100.00%
Precinct 2	58.00%	21.25%	1.02%	2.27%	10.80%	0.52%	0.42%	5.73%	100.00%
Precinct 3	80.71%	3.82%	0.98%	0.22%	10.02%	0.04%	0.22%	4.01%	100.00%
Precinct 4	80.08%	1.26%	0.95%	0.49%	12.83%	0.05%	0.20%	4.14%	100.00%

TAB C

HUNT COUNTY EXISTING POLITICAL BOUNDARIES IN MAP FORM

MAP 1
DEPICTION OF EXISTING
COMMISSIONERS COURT
PRECINCTS
And
VOTING/ELECTION PRECINCTS



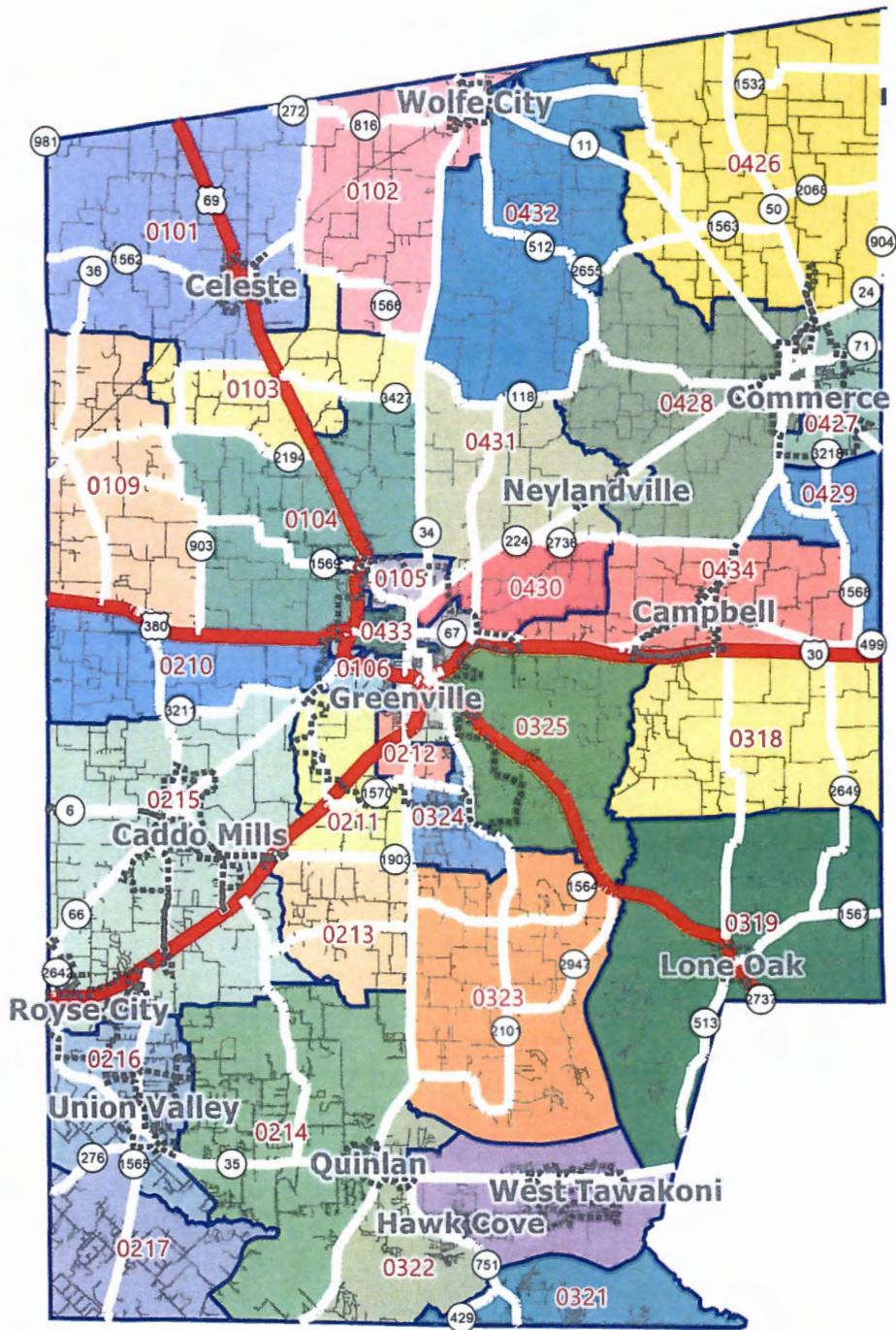
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- Commissioner Precinct 1
- Commissioner Precinct 2
- Commissioner Precinct 3
- Commissioner Precinct 4

Hunt County Initial Assessment Commissioner Precincts



Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP
Data Source: 2020 Census



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Hunt County

Initial Assessment



Voting Districts

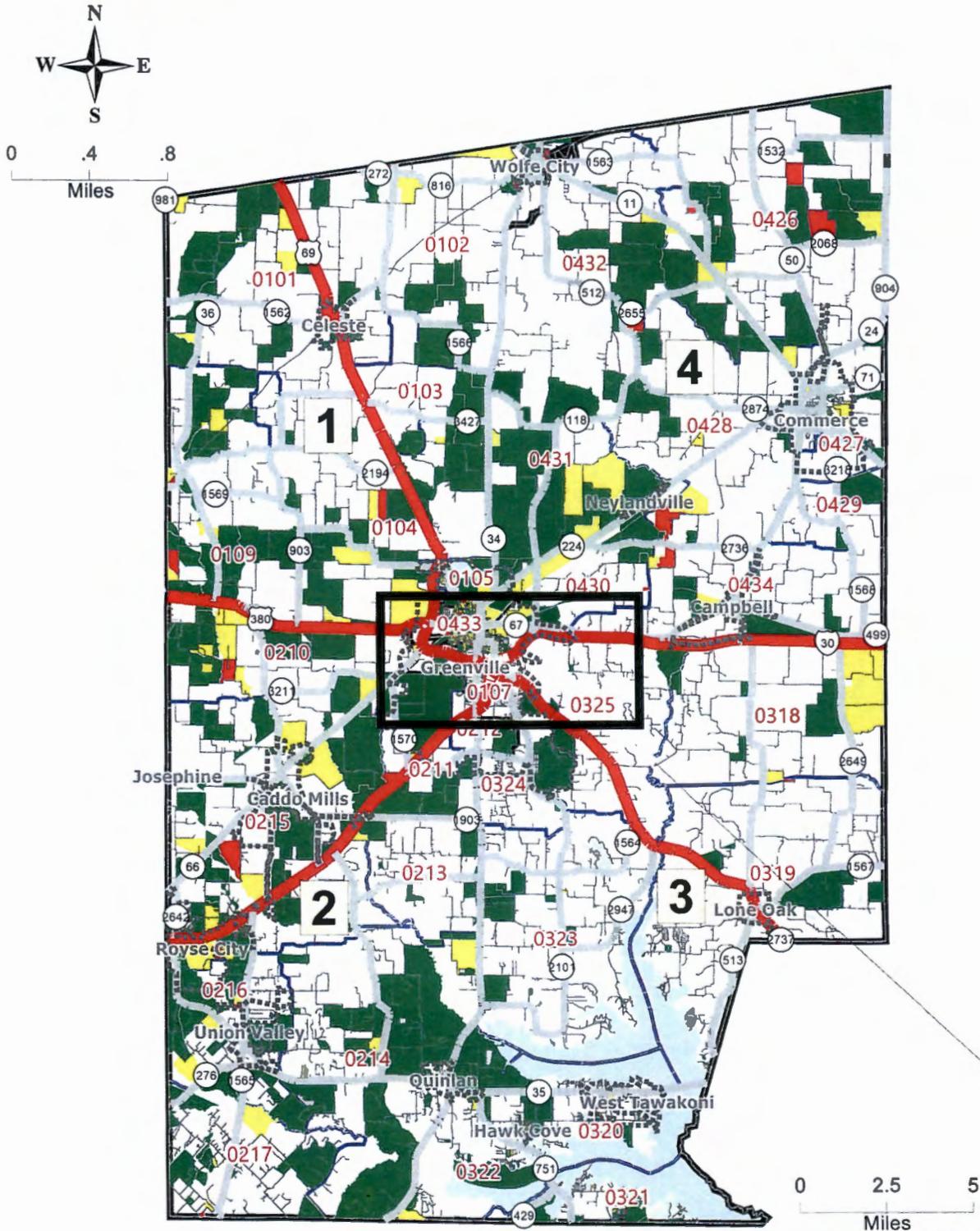
0101	0102	0103	0104	0105	0106	0107	0108
0109	0210	0211	0212	0213	0214	0215	0216
0217	0318	0319	0320	0321	0322	0323	0324
0325	0426	0427	0428	0429	0430	0431	0432
0433	0434						

Allison, Bass & Magee LLP
Data Source: 2020 Census

MAP 2 HISPANIC POPULATION

Hunt County

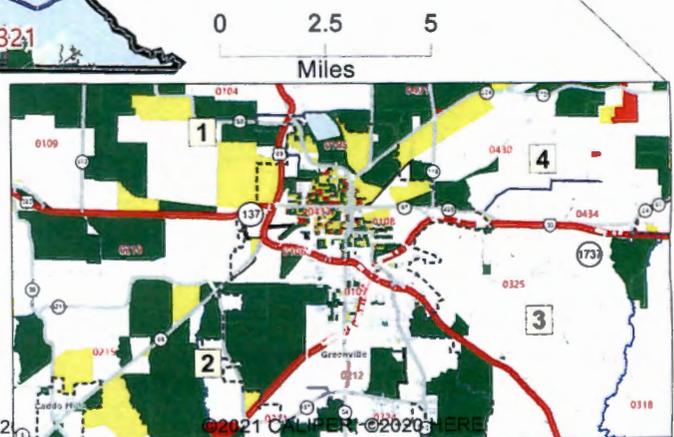
Hispanic Population



Percentage of Hispanic Population Per Census Block

- 50.00% and below
- 50.00% to 80.00%
- 80.00% and above

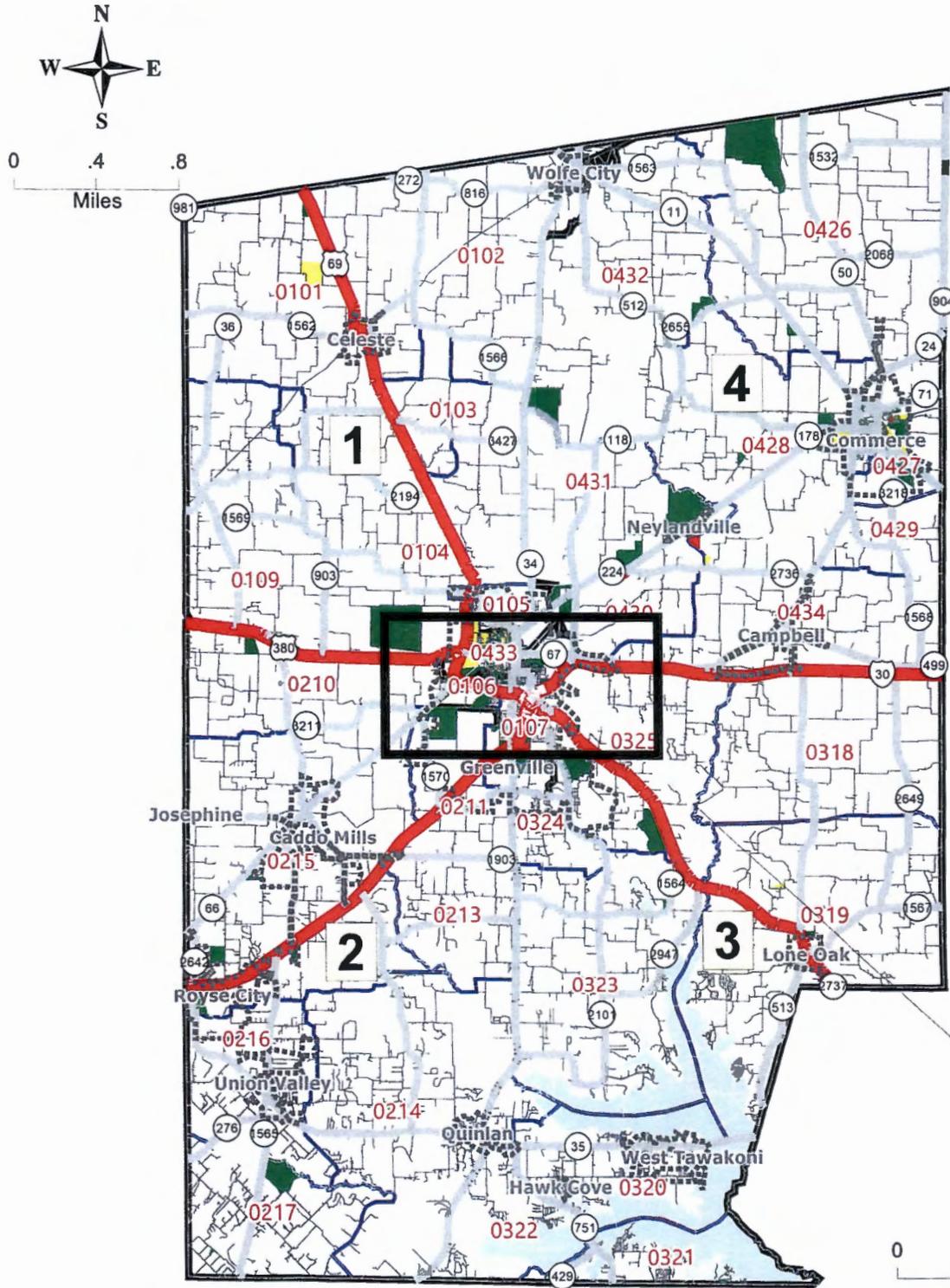
1 Commissioner Precinct



MAP 3 BLACK POPULATION

Hunt County

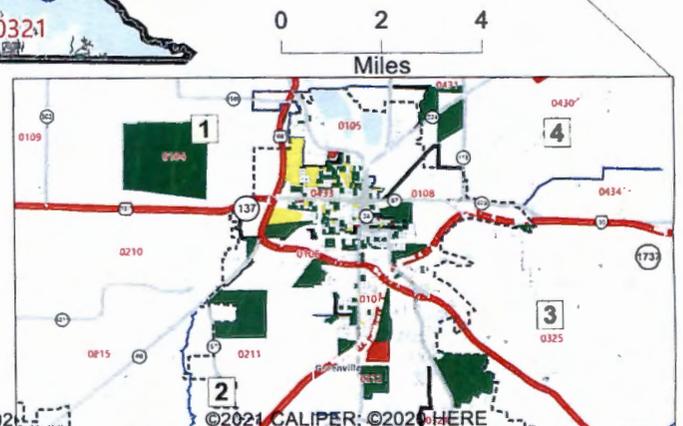
Black Population



Percentage of Black Population Per Census Block

- 50.00% and below
- 50.00% to 80.00%
- 80.00% and above

1 Commissioner Precinct



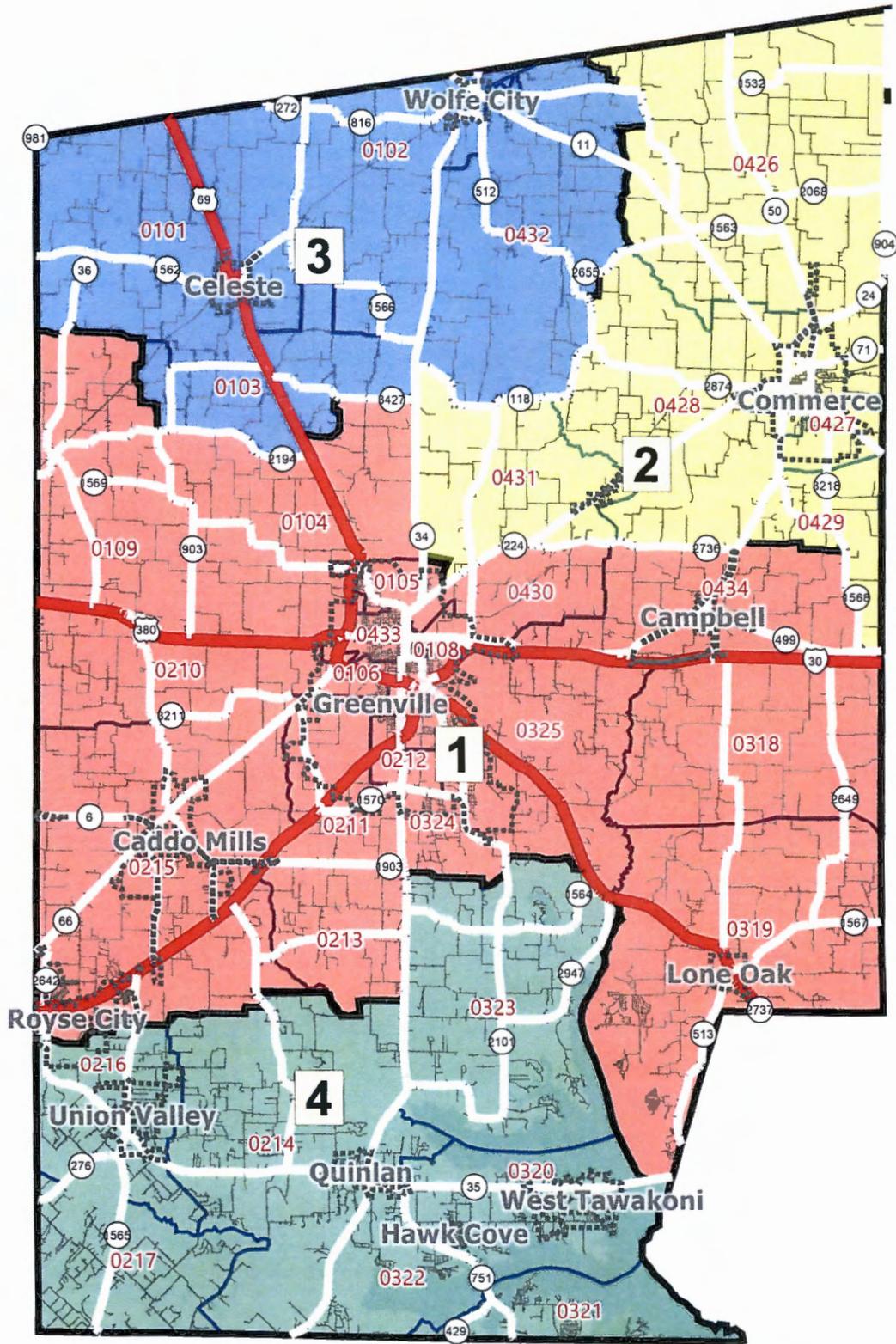
MAP 4

OTHER MINORITY POPULATION

NOTE: If “Other” minority populations within Hunt County do not equal or exceed five percent (5%), this portion of the population will not be depicted in map form.

MAP 5

JUSTICE/CONSTABLE PRECINCTS



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- JP Precinct 1
- JP Precinct 2
- JP Precinct 3
- JP Precinct 4

Hunt County

Initial Assessment JP Precincts



Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP
Data Source: 2020 Census

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS

FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING POLITICAL BOUNDARIES OF HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF 2020 CENSUS DATA AND ORDER FOR REDISTRICTING OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

On the ____ day of _____, 2021, the Commissioners Court of Hunt County met in regular/called session, having posted notice of said hearing in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

The Commissioners Court of Hunt County has previously retained the firm of Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP, of Austin, Texas, to conduct an Initial Assessment of existing political boundaries of Hunt County, following the issuance of census data by the United States Census Bureau. Attached to this Order, and incorporated herein for all purposes by reference, is a copy of the initial assessment conducted by Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. This assessment is based upon PL94-171 data, as required by federal law, and is further based upon information provided to Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP by the Texas Legislative Council, other official sources of information, and by Hunt County, Texas.

Based upon this information, Hunt County has a total maximum deviation of 27.12%. The term total maximum deviation is determined by dividing the total population of Hunt County by four, the number of Commissioners Court precincts to determine an ideal precinct size. The actual population of each precinct is then determined, based upon the official population data contained within the census count, as defined by Public Law 94-171. The actual population of each precinct is compared to the ideal precinct size and a range of deviation by percentage is determined. Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under established federal law.

As a result of this determination, Hunt County has a constitutional duty to redistrict its political boundaries so as to achieve “One-Person-One-Vote” numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts at a legally acceptable margin of deviation, and to make such changes as are necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act and applicable state and federal law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Commissioners Court of Hunt County, Texas expressly finds that it has a legal duty to redistrict. The public interest will be served by redrawing the existing political boundaries of Hunt County in such a manner as to comply with applicable state and federal law. The Commissioners Court hereby enters the following findings of fact and of law:

1. Hunt County has a total maximum deviation, as defined in this order, of 27.12%.
2. Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under federal law.
3. Hunt County, acting by and through its Commissioners Court, is hereby resolved to immediately undertake such necessary and appropriate action to accomplish redistricting of existing commissioners court precincts, and any incidental modification of existing, consolidated, or newly created election precincts necessary to accomplish such redistricting.
4. The Commissioners Court shall henceforth convene in open meetings, duly posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, to take up and consider one or more alternative plans for the legal redistricting of Hunt County.
5. After due consideration of one or more alternative plans, Hunt County shall adopt a plan deemed to satisfy legal requirements, and which best suits the legitimate governmental needs of Hunt County.
6. The adopted redistricting plan will address political boundaries of the Commissioners Court, Justice of the Peace and Election precincts of Hunt County, and shall remain in effect until altered or amended by subsequent Order of the Commissioners Court.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Commissioner, Precinct 2

Commissioner, Precinct 3

Commissioner, Precinct 4

County Judge, Hunt County

County Clerk, Hunt County