

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

The situation:

- Citizens originally go before a board to request a variance, special exception, etc.; or
- · A city official makes a decision that the board can review



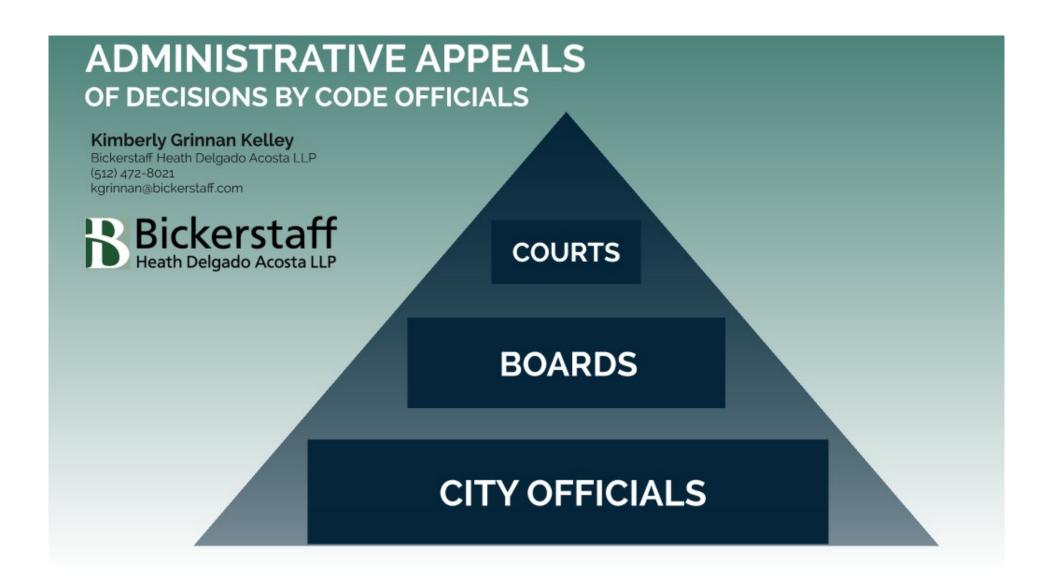
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Best Example: A Board of Adjustment





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"... may appeal to the board of adjustment a decision **made by an** administrative official..." LGC 211.010(a)

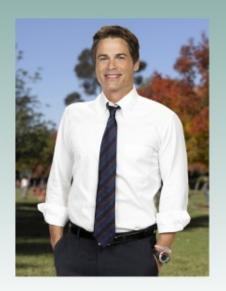
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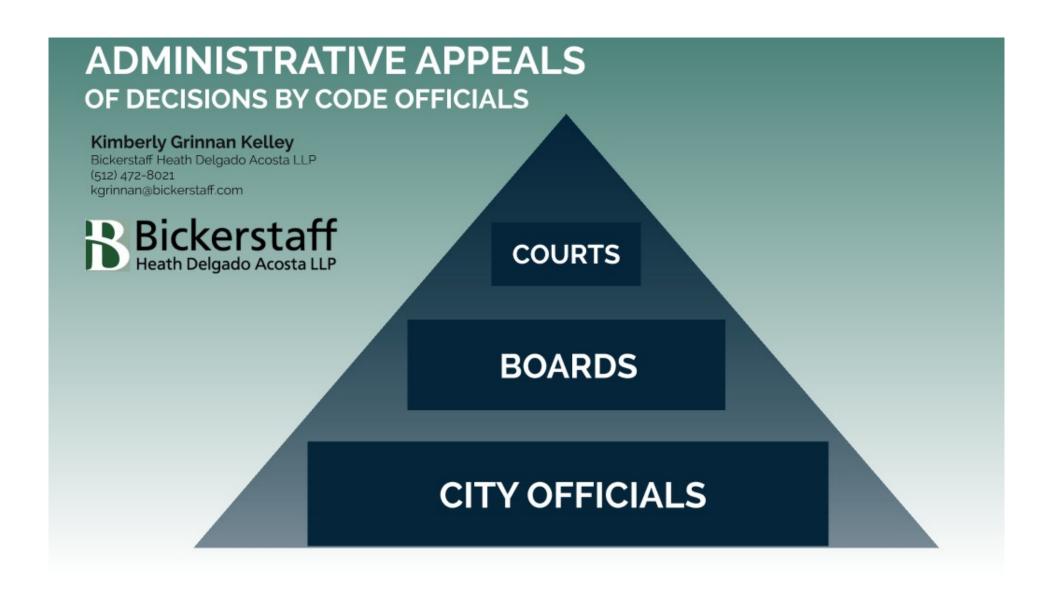


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- City managers
- Code officials
- City staff, employees, attorneys
 - Anthony v. Board of Adjustment of City of Stephenville, 2014 WL 3398139 (Tex. App. - Eastland, July 10, 2014, no pet.)







What type of decision?

"... hear and decide an appeal that alleges error in an order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative official **in the** enforcement of this subchapter or an ordinance adopted under this subchapter..." LGC 211.009(a)(1)



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Chapter 211: Municipal Zoning Authority



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Chapter 211: Municipal Zoning Authority

- · Land use, structures, etc.
- Wrongfully denied permit; Wrongfully issued a permit
- · Construction of a land use regulation
- Other decision by a city administrator



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Chapter 216: Regulation of Signs by Muncipalities



Who can appeal to the BOA?

- "(a) Except as provided by Subsection (e), any of the following persons may appeal to the board of adjustment a decision made by an administrative official:
 - (1) a person aggrieved by the decision; or
 - (2) any officer, department, board, or bureau of the municipality affected by the decision [excluding a councilmember when council acts as the BOA]" LGC 211.010(a), (e)



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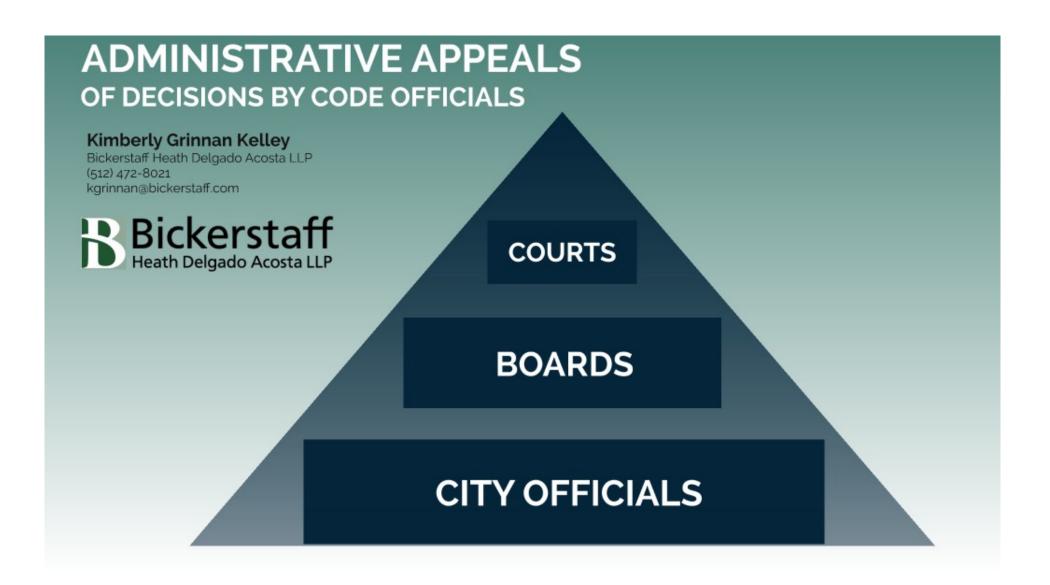


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Note: Taxpayers who are not aggreived can only appeal *from* a BOA decision LGC 211.011(a)(2)





CITY OFFICIALS Best practices



Best practices



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"... the official from whom the appeal is taken shall immediately transmit to the board **all the papers constituting the record** of the action that is appealed." LGC 211.010(b)

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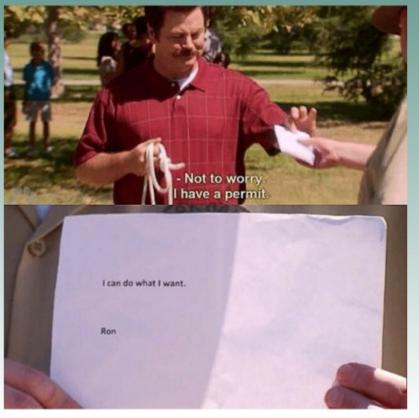
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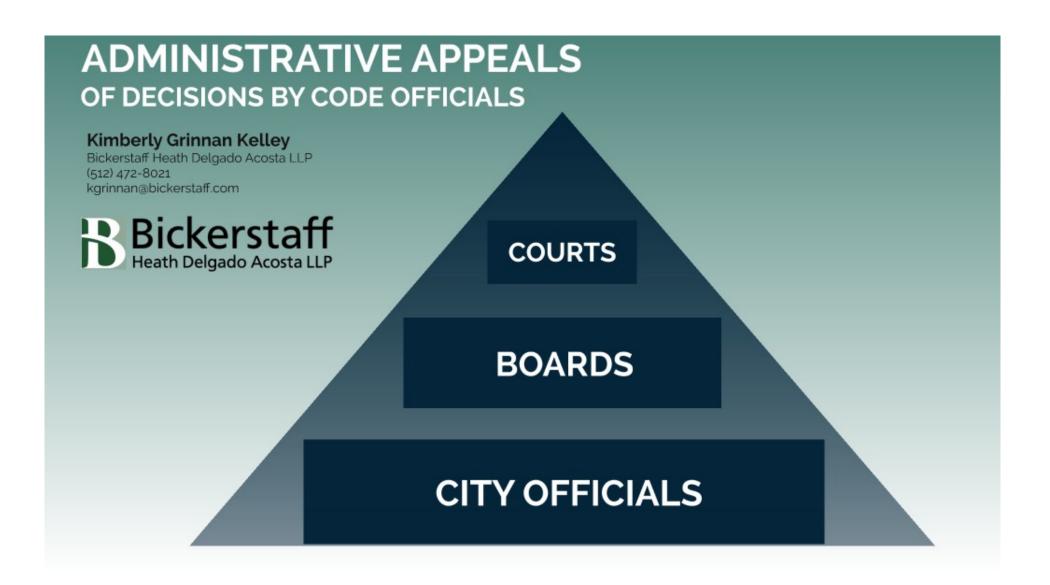
This is the one opportunity to create a record!



CITY OFFICIALS Worst practices

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BOARDS

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Board of adjustment LGC 211



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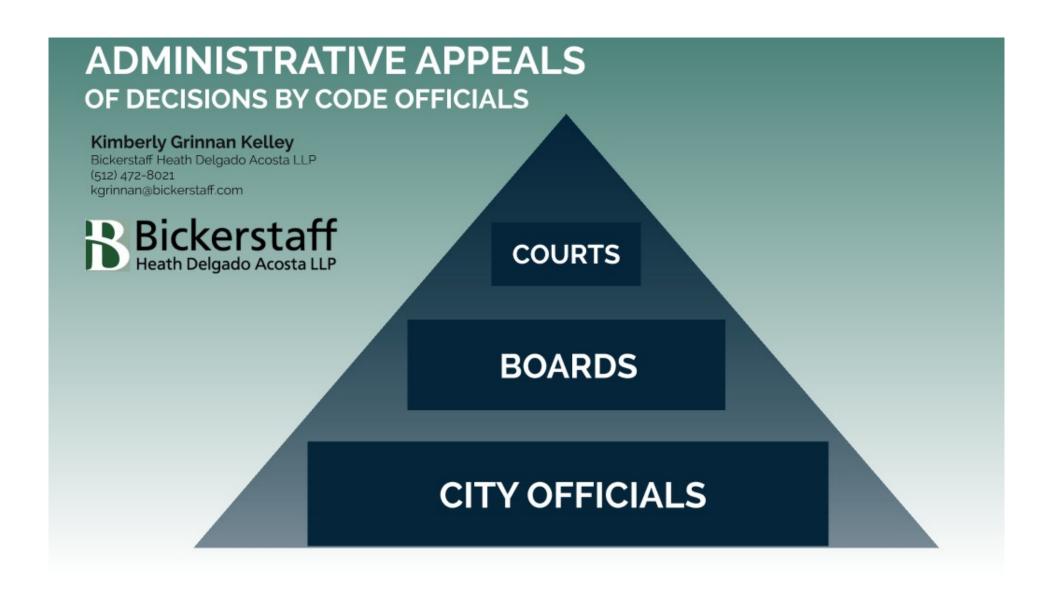
Board of adjustment LGC 211

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Building code boards of review; other city created boards





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Ch. 54 or 211.112



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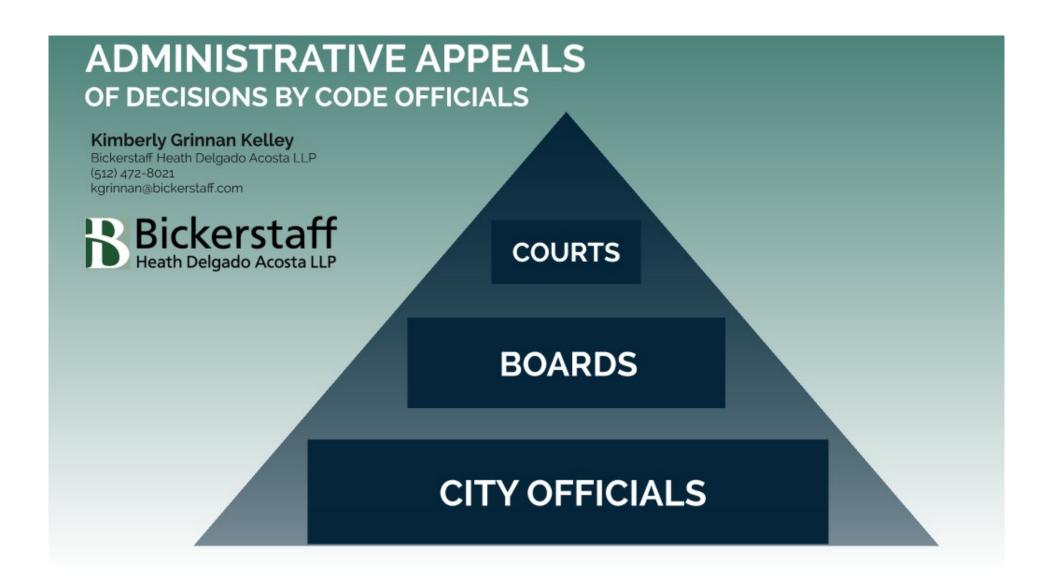
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If the appellant presents new information the official asked for but was not provided, remand the case to the official



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Avoid confusion about when the citizen has waived their right to appeal

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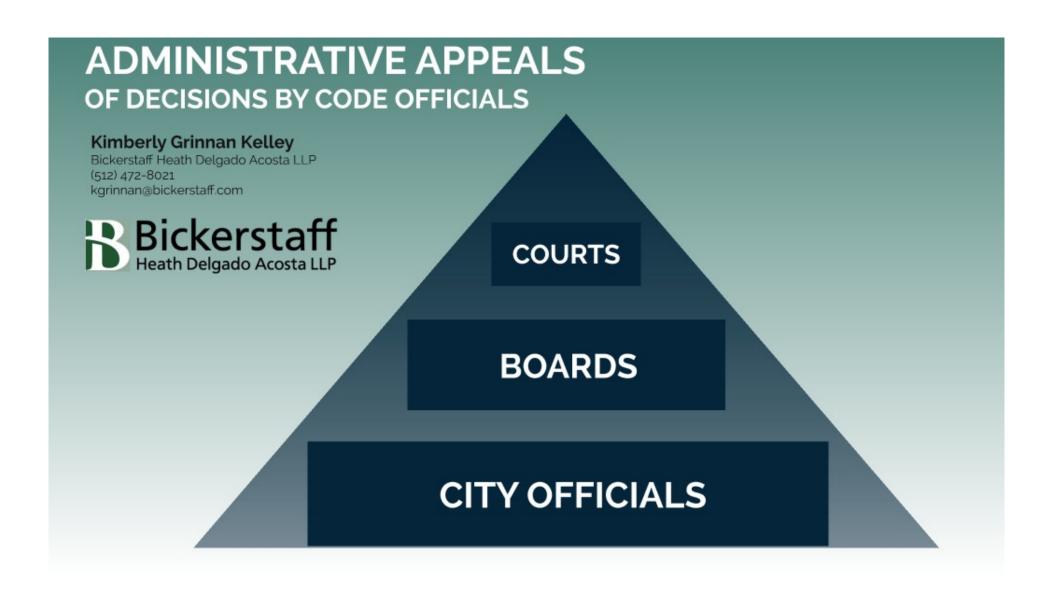
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Be prepared: If a writ is granted, "[t]he board's return must be verified and must concisely state any pertinent and material facts that show the grounds of the decision under appeal." LGC 211.011(d)



Writ of Certiorari



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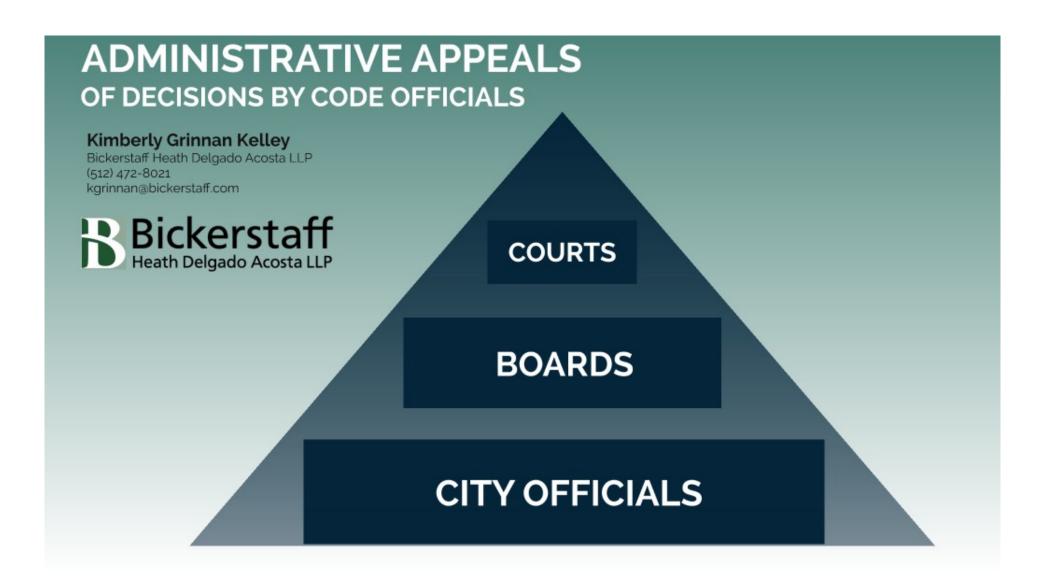


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- Jurisdiction of the court in a 211 appeal







Other types of boards



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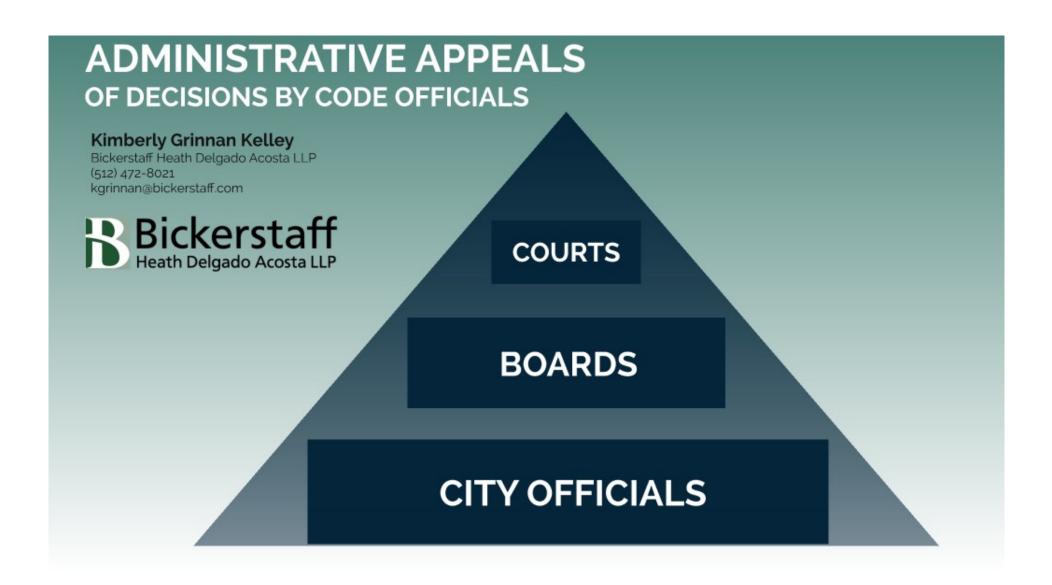
- · General law v. Home rule
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Other types of boards

- General law v. Home rule
- Dangerous buildings, historic use, etc.
- Best practices apply





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