



COURT OF APPEALS
EIGHTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS
EL PASO, TEXAS

MARIA SALINAS,	§	No. 08-17-00006-CV
	§	
Appellant	§	Appeal from the
	§	
V.	§	388th District Court
	§	
MANUEL SALINAS,	§	of El Paso County, Texas
	§	
Appellee.	§	(TC# 2015DCM1368)
	§	

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Appellant, Maria Salinas, is attempting to appeal a purported decision of the court in a divorce case. According to the notice of appeal, the trial court conducted the final hearing on December 14, 2016, but the trial court has not yet entered a divorce decree. We treated the notice of appeal as premature, and we have given Appellant ample opportunity to secure a written divorce decree in order that the appeal could proceed. The trial court has not signed a divorce decree as of this date.

A written order is necessary for a party to perfect appeal from a trial court's order because the appellate timetable runs from the date the judgment or order is signed. *See* TEX.R.APP.P. 26.1; *Farmer v. Ben E. Keith Co.*, 907 S.W.2d 495, 496 (Tex. 1995). A trial court's oral pronouncement and docket entry are not an acceptable substitute for a written order. *Emerald Oaks Hotel/Conference Center, Inc. v. Zardenetta*, 776 S.W.2d 577, 578 (Tex. 1989)(orig. proceeding);

McCormack v. Guillot, 597 S.W.2d 345, 346 (Tex. 1980)(orig. proceeding); *see also Five Star Dev. Resort Communities, LLC v. Istar Financial, Inc.*, No. 08-11-00299-CV, 2011 WL 6209366, at *1 (Tex.App-El Paso Dec. 7, 2011, no pet.)(mem.op.). In the absence of a final judgment or appeal order, we must dismiss this appeal for lack of jurisdiction. *See* TEX.R.APP.P. 42.3(a).

July 7, 2017

ANN CRAWFORD McCLURE, Chief Justice

Before McClure, C.J., Rodriguez, and Palafox, JJ.