



# TENESHIA HUDSPETH

## COUNTY CLERK

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Harris County Clerk's Office Earns National Achievement Award for Back-to-School Birth Certificate Program**

**(Houston, TX)** – The Harris County Clerk's Office (HCCO) was recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its [Back to School Birth Certificate Pilot Program](#). The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

"It is honor to be recognized for our Back to School Birth Certificate Pilot Program that we launched last summer ahead of the start of school," **said Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth**. "Returning to the classroom after COVID-19 was a task for parents enrolling their children in school for the first time, especially for working parents who could not visit our office during regular business hours."

The principal objective of HCCO's Back to School Birth Certificate Pilot Program was to fill a gap in the availability of service by making birth certificates available to the public on two consecutive Saturdays prior to the start of the school year. More than 300 birth certificates were issued in the eight hours that the pilot program spanned, smashing the 100 aggregate total reached by HCCO in any regular business day during the 2021 calendar year.

NACo President Larry Johnson said, "All across the country, counties are working tirelessly to support residents and drive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's Achievement Award-winning programs showcase how counties work every day to build healthy, safe and thriving communities."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more.

Started in 1970, NACo's annual Achievement Awards program is designed to recognize county government innovations. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

Awards were presented at the 2022 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition on Saturday, July 23, 2022 in Adams County, Colorado.

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