

TENESHIA HUDSPETH COUNTY CLERK

Recording the Major Events of Your Life

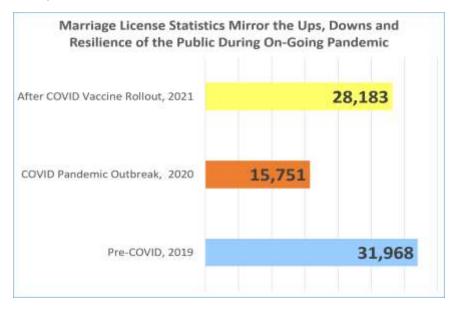
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 9, 2022 Contact: Rosio Torres-Segura Rosio.Torres-Segura@cco.hctx.net

Harris County Clerk Reports Number Of Marriage Licenses Issued Has Rebounded As Public Adapts To Covid-19 Challenges Office Providing Commemorative Photos on Valentine's Day

(Houston, Texas) – With Valentine's Day around the corner, the Harris County Clerk's Office (HCCO) reports that the number of marriage licenses issued in 2021 doubled in comparison to 2020 when the outbreak of the deadly Coronavirus forced a lockdown of public facing county services.

"The number of couples seeking marriage licenses increased significantly last year, especially after lockdowns were lifted," **said Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth**. "The recent heightened COVID-19 threat level due to the Omicron variant has forced us to reinstate by-appointment services as we begin a new year, but I expect the numbers to remain steady and possibly see a surge as Valentine's Day nears."

A comparison of 2019, 2020 and 2021 marriage license statistics show a major decline as the County went into lockdown mode. The data for 2021 indicates that after the vaccine rollout, and once people adapted to the restrictions implemented to keep everyone safe, the numbers rebounded nearly reaching pre-COVID pandemic levels.



This Valentine's Day, HCCO will take photos of couples that come in to get their marriage licenses between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to commemorate their special occasion. HCCO will also be raffling a gift card for a dinner for two to a lucky couple. "It is a small token and a way to celebrate the public's resilience during challenging times," **concluded Hudspeth.**

To schedule an appointment to get a marriage license, birth/death certificate, DBA, and or for other services go to <u>http://cclerk.hctx.net/Applications/AppointmentBooking/</u>. Walk-ins are also welcomed. Please follow safety protocols while conducting business in a county facility.

For more information, visit our website <u>www.cclerk.hctx.net</u> and follow us at @HarrisCoTXClerk on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.