

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 17, 2020 **Contact:** Rosio Torres-Segura <u>Rosio.Torres-Segura@cco.hctx.net</u>

Teneshia Hudspeth Sworn in as Harris County Clerk

(Houston, TX) – Teneshia Hudspeth was sworn in as Harris County Clerk on Tuesday, November 17th by Judge Lesley Briones. Hudspeth who made history last January, when she was promoted to Chief Deputy, is making history for a second time, becoming the first African-American woman elected to this office. Hudspeth was elected on November 3rd to fill the remainder of Diane Trautman's term which expires in 2022. Trautman resigned last May for health reasons and Chris Hollins was appointed by Commissioners Court to serve as interim County Clerk through the November General Election.

"I am truly humbled to be the new Harris County Clerk. I am grateful to the voters and everyone who helped me get here," **said Clerk Hudspeth**. "I also want to thank Chris Hollins for his service as County Clerk the last few months. Many great things were accomplished under his leadership."

Although the County Clerk will no longer manage elections, due to the creation of the Harris County Election Administrator's Office, the County Clerk's Office has many other important functions. Among these, it maintains the records of the Commissioners Court, the Probate Courts, and the County Civil Courts. The Clerk's Office also issues marriage licenses, birth and death certificates, registers businesses (DBA's-doing business as), and files and preserves real property records.

"I am committed to further improving our team's capabilities, and modernizing our technology to meet our residents' needs," **added Hudspeth**. "Also, the health and safety of my staff and the public continues to be a priority." Hudspeth has served in the County Clerk's Office, in various roles, for more than 15 years.

Attendance at the Oath of Office ceremony was limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, but Hudspeth is hoping to hold a larger event after the first of the year.

For more information about the County Clerk's Office and services, visit <u>www.cclerk.hctx.net</u> or follow us @HarrisCoClerk on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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