



STAN STANART

COUNTY CLERK

Recording the Major Events of Your Life

For Immediate Release
February 1, 2012

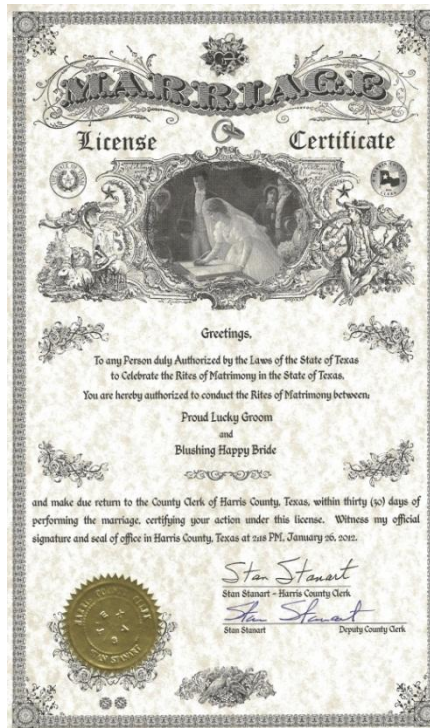
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As Valentine's Day Approaches

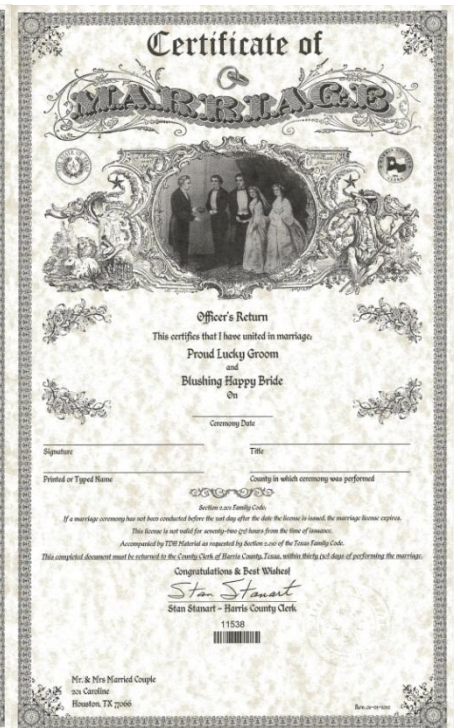
Harris County Clerk Redesigns Marriage License

Houston, TX - The Harris County Clerk, Stan Stanart has redesigned the Marriage License Certificate for Harris County just in time for Valentine's Day. The new Marriage License Certificate is designed with popular romantic style flair of the 1800's and is sure to capture attention and build memories.

“Valentine's Day will be here in a few short weeks and couples across Harris County will soon be getting their License to Marry on this day of Romance”, said Stan Stanart, Harris County Clerk, who is responsible for the new design. “Matrimony is a celebrated tradition that merits a document that hallmarks the memories of one of the most important days of a couple's life.”



License Front



License Back

In addition, the County Clerk has not forgotten those who are already married, and is pleased to make available a new document to celebrate and certify an existing marriage. The new 'Certification of Marriage' Certificate is styled after the new Marriage License design. “The new 'Certification of Marriage' Certificate not only certifies that a couple's Marriage License is legally filed with the Clerk's office, but makes an excellent anniversary gift suitable for framing”, said Stanart. “It also is a great way to rekindle memories or just say “I Love You!”



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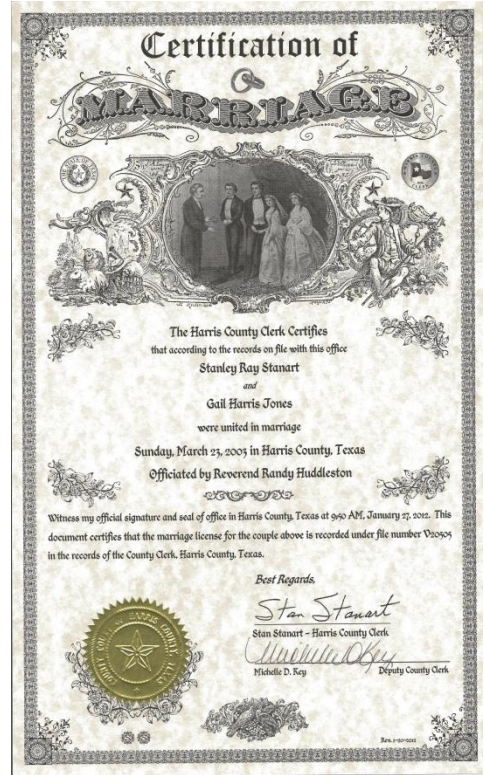
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Recording the Major Events of Your Life

Approximately 30,000 Marriage Licenses are purchased in Harris County on a yearly basis. While some would think that couples prefer certain times of the year to get married, applications remain steady year-round. **“The data shows that, in Harris County, every month is a wonderful time to get married, including Valentine’s Day”** said Stanart.

A Marriage License Certificate is a government issued document declaring to the world that two people have been authorized by the law of the State to enter the ‘Rites of Matrimony’. Marriage licenses have been around since the Middle Ages and are often required for filing taxes, buying a home and other important life events.

Couples may apply for a Marriage License at any of the Harris County Clerk’s offices for a State mandated processing fee of \$72.00. The new Certification of Marriage Certificate is available for \$25.00. A valid form of identification is required. For more details see: www.cclerk.hctx.net.



Marriage Licenses and now the new ‘Certification of Marriage’ Certificates are just some of the ways that the County Clerk is known for **“Recording the Major Events of Your Life.”**

Number of Marriage License Applications Processed by the Harris County Clerk's Office										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jan.	2,409	2,410	2,113	2,184	2,238	2,170	2,128	2,161	1,874	2,008
Feb.	2,825	3,132	2,832	2,751	2,813	2,732	2,886	2,628	2,577	2,671
Mar.	2,652	2,695	3,074	2,785	3,009	2,864	2,677	2,943	3,136	3,058
Apr.	3,069	2,818	3,090	2,703	2,590	2,700	2,748	2,581	2,564	2,681
May	3,254	2,871	2,817	2,941	3,100	2,971	2,904	2,649	2,556	2,749
June	2,961	2,986	2,998	3,099	2,943	3,135	2,949	2,866	2,756	2,949
July	3,077	2,834	2,715	2,670	2,660	3,005	3,153	2,708	2,471	2,462
Aug.	2,722	2,502	2,714	2,669	2,588	2,599	2,645	2,252	2,262	2,616
Sept.	2,699	2,614	2,572	2,385	2,563	2,249	2,007	2,473	2,566	2,651
Oct.	2,814	2,819	2,601	2,621	2,950	2,914	2,924	2,604	2,730	2,905
Nov.	2,439	2,176	2,541	2,472	2,379	2,302	2,219	2,154	2,348	2,690
Dec.	2,788	2,608	2,325	2,538	2,397	2,376	2,618	2,337	2,203	2,285
Total	33,709	32,465	32,392	31,818	32,230	32,017	31,858	30,356	30,043	31,725



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Marriage License Applications Processed in Harris County: The last ten years - 2002 to 2011

Key Facts

- Over 30,000 marriage license applications are processed by the Harris County Clerk's Office on a yearly basis.
- From 2002 to 2011, the Harris County Clerk's Office (CCO) processed 318,613 marriage license applications.
- The County Clerk's Office has processed an average of 2,655 applications a month from 2002-2011.
- The "Marriage Season" in Harris County begins in February and runs through July. 54% of all marriage license applications are processed during that period.
- The least popular months to apply for a marriage license in Harris County are January, November and December in that order.
- The most popular months to apply for a marriage license are March, April and June in that order.

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