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Vital Statistics

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TEXAS VITAL STATISTICS  
Department of State Health Services  
www.texasvsu.org

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## TER-Death Brochure for Funeral Homes and Mortuary Services

Texas Vital Statistics announces the availability of a new brochure designed to assist funeral homes and mortuary services in registering death certificates using the Texas Electronic Registrar (TER).

The brochure includes instructions for completing Drop-to-Paper and Electronic death registrations. Drop-to-Paper registrations do not incorporate the medical certifier participating in the TER-Death Registration system. Electronic registrations do incorporate the medical certifier participating in the TER-Death Registration System. Also, the brochure includes instructions for adding new funeral home/mortuary service staff, as well as setting up funeral directors and assigning PIN numbers.

The brochure is available for download via the Texas Vital Statistics website at [www.texasvsu.org](http://www.texasvsu.org).

Texas Vital Statistics is also developing a brochure to assist medical certifiers in completing and amending the medical section on death certificates using the TER-Death Registration System. Additional information will be provided when this brochure is available.

## Master Registrar Course News!

The next Master Registrar Course is scheduled for March 24-28, 2008. To sign up or learn more about the Master Registrar Course, go to [www.texasvsu.org](http://www.texasvsu.org).

A Quick Reference Guide to  
Electronic Death Registration

## Texas Electronic Registrar

*Never Sign a Death Certificate Again!*



TEXAS VITAL STATISTICS  
Department of State Health Services  
www.texasvsu.org



# 53rd Annual Vital Statistics Conference

On December 9-11, 2007, vital statistics partners from around the state gathered at the Renaissance Austin Hotel in Austin for the 53rd Annual Vital Statistics Conference. Over 550 county and district clerks, city secretaries, midwives, local health department employees, justices of the peace, and staff and administrators from hospitals, birthing centers, medical examiner offices, funeral homes and mortuary services attended the three-day conference. Attendees could choose from more than 40 sessions with topics ranging from electronic birth and death registration to fraud detection and prevention.

The conference featured an Opening Address by Jody Conratt, former University of Texas Women's Basketball Coach and Athletic Director, who spoke about how effective teamwork leads to successful outcomes. The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Fernando Guerra, Director of Health for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, who spoke about the importance of quality public health data and the important role of vital statistics partners in the collection of the data.

An awards luncheon was held to recognize the vital statistics partners that achieved excellence in vital registration. Sixty local registration offices, 36 hospitals/birthing centers/midwives, and 16 funeral homes/mortuary services met five criteria to achieve the Five-Star Award. (See the opposite page for a complete list of the 2007 Five-Star Award recipients.)



2007 Master Registrar Class



2007 State Registrar Award Recipients for Outstanding Partnership

Thirteen individuals were recognized for meeting the requirements to be certified as 2007 Master Registrars. These individuals completed a week-long class and conducted a presentation at a vital statistics conference or developed a vital statistics project. (See below for a complete list of the 2007 Master Registrars.)

In addition, three State Registrar Awards for Outstanding Partnership were presented to Porter Loring Mortuary in San Antonio, Tarrant County Medical Examiners Office in Fort Worth and Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler for their efforts in the implementation of the TER-Death Registration system.

## 2007 Certified Master Registrars

Lluvia Caudillo, City of Lewisville  
Arnold Fairley, Texas Vital Statistics  
Rhonda Goodman, City of Port Arthur  
Gladys Hand, Waco/McLennan County  
Public Health District  
Elbia Hernandez, City of Arlington  
Robbie Holmes, City of Houston  
Laura Hughes, Kaufman County  
Josie Leal, San Antonio Metropolitan  
Health District  
Barbette Quigley, City of Bedford  
Albert Rivera, Texas Vital Statistics  
Bobby Schiener, Texas Vital Statistics  
Nikki Sigler, Texas Vital Statistics  
Lois Wallace, City of Fort Worth



# 2007 Texas Vital Statistics Five-Star Award Winners

## Local Registrar Vital Registration Award Recipients

### Exemplary

Andrews County Clerk  
City of Austin  
Guadalupe County Clerk

Kerr County Clerk  
Matagorda County Clerk  
Polk County Clerk

Rusk County Clerk  
Taylor County Clerk

### Recognized

Abilene-Taylor Co Public Health  
District  
Bosque County Clerk  
Brazoria County Clerk  
Brown County Clerk  
City of Arlington  
City of Atlanta  
City of Baytown  
City of Beaumont  
City of Bedford  
City of Brownsville  
City of Bryan  
City of College Station  
City of Denison  
City of Fort Worth  
City of Grapevine  
City of Harlingen  
City of Hillsboro

City of Houston  
City of Lewisville  
City of Lubbock  
City of Mission  
City of North Richland Hills  
City of Paris  
City of San Marcos  
City of Temple  
City of Victoria  
City of Weslaco  
City of Yoakum  
Comal County Clerk  
Cooke County Clerk  
Dawson County Clerk  
Deaf Smith County Clerk  
Fort Bend County Clerk  
Frio County Clerk  
Galveston County Health District

Hood County Clerk  
Hunt County Clerk  
Jackson County Clerk  
Kaufman County Clerk  
Madison County Clerk  
Medina County Clerk  
Midland County Clerk  
Parker County Clerk  
Reeves County Clerk  
Scurry County Clerk  
Tom Green County Clerk  
Waco/McLennan Co Public Health  
District  
Ward County Clerk  
Washington County Clerk  
Wichita Falls Public Health Dept  
Williamson County Clerk  
Wise County Clerk

## Hospital/Birthing Center/Midwife Registration Award Recipients

Baptist St. Anthony's Health  
System - Baptist Campus  
Baylor Medical Center at Garland  
Baylor Medical Center at  
Waxahachie  
Baylor Regional Medical Center at  
Grapevine  
Brownsville Doctors Hospital  
Citizens Medical Center  
Dallas Regional Medical Center -  
Galloway Campus  
Daughters of Charity Health  
Services of Austin - Brackenridge  
Daughters of Charity Health Services  
of Austin - Seton Northwest  
Daughters of Charity Health Services  
of Austin - Seton Southwest

Del Sol Medical Center  
Denton Regional Medical Center  
Guadalupe Regional Medical Center  
Harris Methodist HEB  
Harris Methodist Southwest  
Hendrick Medical Center  
Las Colinas Medical Center  
Las Palmas Medical Center  
McKenna Memorial Hospital  
Medical City Dallas Hospital  
Memorial Hermann - Katy Hospital  
Memorial Hermann Southeast  
Hospital  
Memorial Hermann The Woodlands  
Hospital  
Memorial Hospital - Dumas

Methodist Willowbrook Hospital  
Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital  
Ochiltree General Hospital  
Presbyterian Hospital of Greenville  
Presbyterian Hospital of Plano  
San Jacinto Methodist Hospital  
Sierra Medical Center  
Southwest General Hospital  
Titus Regional Medical Center  
United Regional Health Care  
System - Eighth Street  
Uvalde Memorial Hospital  
Valley Baptist Medical Center -  
Brownsville

## Funeral Home/Mortuary Service Registration Award Recipients

Brookehill Funeral Home  
Callaway-Jones Funeral Home  
Claybar Funeral Home, Inc. - Orange  
Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Chapel  
Ellis Funeral Home - Midland  
Garza Memorial Funeral Home

Grimes Funeral Chapels - Kerrville  
James Crowder Funeral Home - La  
Marque  
Joe Jackson Heights Funeral Chapels  
Kerrville Funeral Home, Inc.  
Niето-Dickey Funeral Home

Porter Loring Mortuary - McCullough  
Schmidt Funeral Home - Katy  
Stewart Family Funeral Home  
Victoria Mortuary Services  
Winscott Road Funeral Home



# ImmTrac

**Question:** How was the ImmTrac Registry newborn consent process impacted by the 80th Texas Legislative Session?

**Answer:** Birth registrars can look forward to a more simplified ImmTrac newborn consent process in mid-2008. Senate Bill 11, passed during the 80th Legislative Session, will enable birth registrars and other authorized health care staff to 'affirm' ImmTrac consent status for newborns, eliminating the need to fax in TER-generated ImmTrac consent forms.

Current Texas law requires parents be offered the opportunity to grant or deny consent for their newborn's participation in ImmTrac via the Texas Electronic Registrar (TER). TER generates a pre-populated Immunization Registry (ImmTrac) Registration Form for hospitals and birthing facilities that is presented to the parents to grant or deny consent. After the consent form has been completed and signed by one of the parents, it is faxed to the Vital Statistics Unit (VSU).

Rules and technical enhancements for implementing such legislation are being developed

and expected to take effect in mid-2008. The ImmTrac Group and VSU will collaboratively communicate all changes in processes to birth registrars and other hospital and birthing facility staff, as soon as these are in place. Until further notice, birth registrars should continue following the current ImmTrac Registry newborn consent process.

For additional information on the current ImmTrac newborn consent process, please visit the Information for Birth Registrars link at [www.ImmTrac.com](http://www.ImmTrac.com).

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