

FROM THE OFFICE OF
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County Eye Newsletter



Deputy County Clerk Shelley Parker, left, and County Clerk Rebecca Bolin, center, hold their recognitions for completing the Master Registrar Certification Course through the Texas Department of Health Vital Statistics Division earlier this year. Deputy Clerk Nuvia Cruces, right, holds the 2015

The Kerr County Clerk's Office recently received two recognitions at the 61st Vital Statistics Conference in Austin in early December.

The office received the Five-Star Award from The Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics Unit. To qualify for the award, an entity had to meet all of the exemplary designation criteria from Jan. 1, 2015 to Sept. 30, 2015.

"This is recognition for my entire office staff," County Clerk Rebecca Bolin said, "because all 12 of us worked very hard to achieve this award."

Qualifications criteria for the recognition include timeliness in filing all death registrations into the state office. To achieve the Five-Star designation the death certificates must be filed within 10 days of receipt.

Other criteria include a 60% or greater success in printing birth certificates using the Remote Birth Access System for clients requesting birth certificates from other counties or states. At least 95% of local birth registrations must be completed within one business day during that same period to be considered for the Five-Star designation.

Another criteria required for the award is mandatory attendance by staff of the county clerk's office at the statewide vital statistics training conference or at a regional training conference.

"You might call this an all-staff award because it took teamwork and dedication from all of us to achieve this goal," Bolin said, "so everyone shares in the success of this office."

Bolin and Deputy County Clerk Shelley Parker attended the Master Registrar Certification (MRC) Course in April but received their awards at the Austin conference.

The Master Registrar Certification course is comprised of a small group of local registrars and deputies from around the state. The course provides them with a deeper understanding of vital registration and issuance through the statutory framework of vital statistics, best practices and working collaboratively with the processes at the federal, state and local level, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

In an informal setting the participants are updated on statutes and codes relevant to vital records and specific topics regarding vital records registration and issuance. A tour of the state's Vital Statistics Unit, group projects and peer group mentoring techniques are included as part of the training.

"There were only 20 participants selected from around the state," Deputy Clerk Shelley Parker said, "and now we are the go-to people for the rest of the state."

The comprehensive week-long training sponsored by the Texas Department of State Health Services was April 6-10 in Austin.