



**Laura Hinojosa**

Hidalgo County  
District Clerk

## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:**

Ricardo Contreras  
956.318.2200, ext 6239 (day)  
956.343.2633 (evening)

### HIDALGO COUNTY & DISTRICT CLERKS KICK-OFF SATURDAY PASSPORT CLINICS

**Edinburg, Texas** – **Laura Hinojosa**, Hidalgo County District Clerk, and **Arturo Guajardo, Jr.**, Hidalgo County Clerk, announced today they will kick-off a series of "Saturday Passport Clinics" beginning on **National Passport Day, March 28, 2009**, from 9am to 3pm, on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Hidalgo County Courthouse. The Saturday clinics will be reserved for processing passport applications and birth certificate requests only.

"The Saturday clinics were initiated as a result of the feedback we received from the public regarding the scheduling conflicts with work and children's school schedules," said Hinojosa. "With the June 1st, 2009 passport deadline right around the corner, we are very happy to be able to offer working families in our community an opportunity to process these documents on the weekend. I want to extend a commendation to the County Clerk's Office and the Sheriff's Office for their collaboration in making this possible."

The following are required for processing a passport at the District Clerk's Office and/or a birth certificate at the County Clerk's Office:

**Passport Requirements:**

- Passport Application (visit [www.co.hidalgo.tx.us](http://www.co.hidalgo.tx.us) or [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) )
- Proof of US Citizenship (birth certificate, long form)
- Proof of identity
- Two recent passport photographs, AND
- Fees (visit [www.co.hidalgo.tx.us](http://www.co.hidalgo.tx.us) or [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for current fees)

**Birth Certificates:**

- Full name on birth certificate
- Date and place of birth
- Father's full name
- Mother's full maiden name

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Post Office Box 87

Edinburg, Texas 78540

Telephone (956) 318-2200

Fax (956) 318-2251

[districtclerk@co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:districtclerk@co.hidalgo.tx.us)



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- Name, address and phone number of the Requester
- Relationship to person on birth record
- Valid identification (Driver's License Preferred)
- Purpose of obtaining the birth certificate

**Fee:**

- Certified copy of Birth Certificate - \$23.00 Long Form
- Certified copy of Birth Certificate - \$24.00 Wallet Size

**Only a Qualified Applicant may obtain a copy of a birth certificate:**

- The registrant. The person named in the record.
- The parent, child, brother, sister, spouse, grandparent, legal guardian or managing conservator of the registrant.
- Legal representative, agent or other person acting under contract for the registrant. Must provide a letter of permission and a copy of identification from the registrant.
- An applicant must provide all necessary information and show proper identification prior to obtaining the certificate.
- If you are requesting your spouse's Birth Certificate, you will need to bring a copy of your Marriage License.
- If you are requesting a Birth Certificate for a grandchild, you will need to bring the child's parents' Birth Certificates to identify relationship.

"We are continually searching for ways to make County Government more accessible to the public and this is another way of extending our services to Hidalgo County taxpayers. I encourage everyone who has not yet applied for their passport to take advantage of the opportunity to do so on Saturday March 28, 2009," said Guajardo.

Tentatively, Saturday clinics will be held every other Saturday depending on public response. The public is encouraged to contact the District Clerk's Office at 956.318.2200, ext. 6270 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

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