



Heather Henigan

COUNTY CLERK

HARRISON COUNTY, TEXAS



VITAL RECORDS INFORMATION

BIRTH RECORDS

A birth certificate is a permanent legal record of an individual's birth. **The Harrison County Clerk's Office maintains birth certificates for births within Harrison County only.** These are called [long form](#) birth certificates. The Harrison County Clerk's office can provide a [short form](#) birth certificate for anyone born in the State of Texas, if found in the state system. For births within the last 75 years, only [qualified applicants](#) are eligible to request a copy.

We cannot release any information on a record without an application, payment, and [acceptable ID](#) submitted by a [qualified applicant](#). When an applicant is not properly qualified, we can, however, issue a birth verification letter which includes the registrant's name, date of birth, and place of birth as it appears on the birth index. Verification letters are **noncertified statements** and not considered legal substitutes for certified copies of birth certificates. Vital Statistics strongly recommends that applicants ensure a verification will satisfy its intended use.

DEATH RECORDS

A death certificate is a permanent legal record of an individual's death. The certificate of death includes the name of the deceased, date of death, place of death, and cause of death. **The Harrison County Clerk's Office maintains death certificates for deaths that occur within Harrison County only.** For deaths within the past 25 years, only [qualified applicants](#) are eligible to request a copy.

We cannot release any information on a record without an application, payment, and [acceptable ID](#) submitted by a [qualified applicant](#). When an applicant is not properly qualified, we can, however, issue a death verification letter which includes the registrant's name, date of death, and place of death as it appears on the Harrison County death index. Verification letters are **noncertified statements** and not considered legal substitutes for certified copies of death certificates. Vital Statistics strongly recommends that applicants ensure a verification will satisfy its intended use.

Visit the [National Center for Health Statistics](#) website for certificates for an **out-of-state death**.

RECORDS REQUEST

Vital Records (birth and death certificates) are not public records. Per the TAC Title 25 Chapter 181 Rule 181.1 (21), the requests for births can be made by immediate family members related by blood, marriage, or adoption (self, parents, grandparents, legal spouse, sibling or children), his or her guardian, legal agent or representative. For additional help contact the Vital Statistics desk at 903-935-8403.

How do I get a copy of the record if I am not an immediate family member?

All other applicants must provide legal documentation (such as a court order establishing guardianship, an insurance policy listing the applicant as the beneficiary, etc) that documents a direct, tangible interest in the birth or death certificate.