

Presentation to Commissioners' Court
for the Vital Statistic 5-Star 'Exemplary' Award

February 26, 2019

In 2002 the Texas Department of State Health Services began their 5-Star Award Program.

Eight years later, I took office in 2011 and that year the County Clerk's office received the County's **FIRST** 5-Star Award!

This year marks eight consecutive years the Smith County Clerk's Vital Statistic Department has obtained this outstanding distinction.

Six of the past eight years we had the honor of being awarded the prestigious 5-Star "Exemplary" Award as transpired again this year.

Our Vital Statistics Department consists of two full-time ladies, Jimmie Alaniz and now Rebecca Armbruster and a host of back-ups which include; Robin Holland, Veronica Arteaga, Nathaniel Fields Jr., and Brenda Folmar who was extremely instrumental in assisting in obtaining this award. *Last week, Brenda just transferred to the District Clerk's office.*

Once again this year, the department *as a whole* pulled off another win for the citizens of Smith County.

Each of the deputy clerks who work in this department consider it their paramount duty to ensure all citizens receives excellent customer service in an efficient manner and always with a smile.

Each Clerk also works to achieve excellence in the dept on a daily basis which has allowed the County Clerk's office to obtain an award in this field for eight straight years.

There are 325 local Registrars in the State. This year Smith County was 1 of 19 local registrars to receive the prestigious 5-Star EXEMPLARY award at

The December 2018 Annual Vital Statistic Conference in Austin.

I'm extremely proud of each one of my deputy clerks and the work they do for Smith County and for my office.

Each one of these amazing deputies have a strong desire and an unrelenting drive to achieve the highest award available.

I love each and every one of you. And today I say, you each are so deserving of the 2018 'Exemplary' Five Star Award and Ribbon! You should be very proud of yourselves.

Congratulations Ladies and Nathaniel

Karen Phillips
Smith County Clerk