

Texas Association of Counties

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September 11, 2009

**TO:** Hon. Robert Hebert, Judge, Fort Bend County  
**FROM:** Kali O'Neill, Leadership Foundation Board Secretary  
**SUBJECT:** Presentation Materials

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Congratulations to your county for having been selected for a 2009 TAC Leadership Foundation County Best Practice Award. Your awards presentation is scheduled for October 6, 2009, during your Commissioners Court session. Hon. Marc Hamlin, past TAC president and current Brazos County district clerk, will make the presentation.

Enclosed are several items related to the event:

- A copy of the publication distributed at the TAC Annual Conference highlighting the awarded programs;
- A copy of the script our presenters will be following for the presentation (which they may embellish as they see fit);
- A press release that you can provide to your local media. (An electronic version of this release is being sent to you as well.); and
- A copy of the video highlighting your awarded program, which you can show as part of the award presentation. We ask that you preview the video prior to the event to ensure that everything works as it should.

Should you have questions or concerns, please contact me or Ms Lori Wiggins at TAC: 1-800-456-5974.

Cc: Marc Hamlin, Lori Wiggins, Charles Cook



# PRESS RELEASE

## TEXAS ASSOCIATION *of* COUNTIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **FORT BEND COUNTY HONORED BY TAC**

Fort Bend County is one of 13 counties around the state being honored this year by the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Leadership Foundation for Best Practices involving innovative programs that deliver quality services and protect taxpayer dollars.

The programs were selected to receive high honors for innovation, achievement and delivery of service in the 2009 County Best Practice Awards, which recognize county initiatives that serve as a model to others and save taxpayer monies.

"People in counties across Texas are coming up with such creative solutions," said Marc Hamlin, past TAC president and current Brazos County district clerk. "Counties have so few streams of revenue, and every good idea that can be shared is terribly important."

Fort Bend County received a prestigious Best Practices award for innovation in financial and general management for its team-model structure approach to Information Technology project management. The selection committee felt following a similar project management structure may help other counties be more successful in their efforts to implement new software programs in multiple county departments.

Charles Cook, director of information technology, accepted the award for the county.

## **County Best Practices Script for Fort Bend County**

(Introduce yourself/selves, including title and your relationship to TAC/Leadership Foundation.)

Today, I am/we are here to honor Fort Bend County on behalf of the Texas Association of Counties Leadership Foundation.

Fort Bend County is receiving a prestigious Best Practices award for innovation in financial and general management for its team-model structure approach to Information Technology project management. The selection committee felt following a similar project management structure may help other counties be more successful in their efforts to implement new software programs in multiple county departments.

This is a very unique and significant service that certainly caught the selection committee's attention, and that's what Best Practice awards are all about.

The Best Practices awards began in 2000 to honor counties for innovation, achievement and delivery of services.

It is particularly important for winning programs to serve as models that other counties may use and to protect the use of taxpayer dollars, particularly in these tough economic times. Our taxpayers deserve the most bang for the buck, and the 2009 Best Practices winners show this can be done through creative thinking and prudent planning.

This program is one of only 20 across the state being honored this year, the ninth year of these awards.

On behalf of TAC and its Leadership Foundation, I/we proudly present this 2009 award for innovation to Fort Bend County.

**Note: About the 2009 Best Practices Awards DVDs**

Each DVD contains a DVD-Video of the individual award which will play in a DVD player, plus a DVD-ROM folder containing:

- A small web sized Windows Media Video version (~ 6MB)
- A large QuickTime version optimized for uploading to YouTube or other social media websites.(~125MB)This version is labeled "YouTube".
- A full resolution DVNTSC QuickTime version suitable for compressing to other web formats or for dubbing to broadcast formats or for creating alternate versions of this DVD.(~600MB)

To access these DVD-ROM versions simply open the DVD-ROM on your computer.