

**PRESS RELEASE**

June 5, 2024

Contact: Travis County Clerk's Office

[countyclerk@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:countyclerk@traviscountytexas.gov)

**Travis County Clerk & Judges Host Marriage Equality Anniversary Celebrations**

AUSTIN — To celebrate Pride Month and the ninth anniversary of Marriage Equality, the Travis County Clerk's Office and Judges will offer free wedding ceremonies starting June 22, through the end of the month. This year's celebration has expanded, following the success of last year's inaugural one-day event.

On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court's decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* affirmed the national right to same-sex marriage. On that historic day, the Travis County Clerk's office, led by then-County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir, issued 312 formal and 113 informal marriage licenses to both different-sex and same-sex couples. Earlier that same year, the Travis County Clerk's Office issued Texas's first marriage license to a same-sex couple.

**How to Participate:**

Couples wishing to marry during the County's Marriage Equality Week Celebration must schedule an appointment via a form on the County Clerk's website. They must also obtain a marriage license from the Travis County Clerk's office in advance to comply with the 72-hour waiting period requirement.

**Ceremony Details:**

- Dates: Saturday, June 22; Monday, June 24; Wednesday, June 26; and Friday, June 28
- Location: Various
- Times: Various

Participating Judges include Hon. Selena Alvarenga, Hon. Andy Brown, Hon. Nicholas Chu, Hon. Laurie Eiserloh, Hon. Bianca Garcia, and Hon. Denise Hernández.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, visit the Travis County Clerk's website.

**Statement from Travis County Clerk Dyana Limon-Mercado:**

"In February 2015, the Travis County Clerk's office issued Texas's first marriage license to a same-sex couple. Amid ongoing extreme attacks on the LGBTQ+ community from the Texas State Legislature, our office remains committed to supporting and celebrating the rights of all Texans, including the right to marry who they love, regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression."

**Additional Pride Month Events:**

As part of Travis County's broader Pride Month celebration, Travis County Judge Brown will host the fourth annual Pride flag-raising on Tuesday, June 25. The Commissioners Court will read a proclamation honoring Pride Month. Following the flag-raising at the Travis County

Administration Building (700 Lavaca Street), there will be a vendor market featuring LGBTQIA+ vendors.

Judge Brown will be offering free wedding ceremonies at the Tuesday, June 25 flag-raising event. To schedule an appointment, please email [judge@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:judge@traviscountytexas.gov).

Judge Hernández will also be conducting free weddings to celebrate Pride Month on Saturday, June 22, in partnership with The Cathedral ATX. Weddings will take place at The Cathedral ATX from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be scheduled through the County Clerk's website.