



# Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

## Harris County Family District Courts: leading with efficiency and innovation to serve families

**March 3, 2025** — The 11 Harris County Family District Courts are setting a new standard in judicial efficiency and service to the community. With a remarkable 113 percent clearance rate for 2024, the family law judges work tirelessly to ensure that families receive timely and effective resolutions to their cases. This exceptional clearance rate reflects the dedication of these judges, who have implemented innovative case management strategies to expedite proceedings while maintaining fairness and due process.

The Harris County Family District Courts oversee some of the most sensitive and life-altering cases, including divorce, child custody, visitation, child support, protective orders, adoptions, and cases involving Child Protective Services (CPS). The volume and complexity of these cases require a judiciary that is not only knowledgeable and compassionate, but also proactive in adapting to the evolving needs of our community.

### **A Proactive Approach to the Future:**

As Harris County continues to grow, so do the legal needs of its families. The Harris County District Courts are committed to maintaining pace-setter status by ensuring the courts remain accessible, nimble, and equipped to handle increasing caseloads. To this end, rather than waiting until the system is at or over maximum capacity, we are advocating for the creation of additional family law courts to maximize continued efficiency and service to the people of Harris County. This ask includes a request for the rebuilding of a new Family Law Center.

“Every day, we see firsthand the positive impact that timely resolutions have on our families,” said Judge Angela Graves-Harrington, Administrative Judge for the Family Courts and Presiding Judge of the 246<sup>th</sup> Harris County District Court. “We are proud of the work we have done to keep cases moving, but we must also plan for the future. Expanding the family courts will allow us to continue providing high-quality judicial services that our community deserves.”

### **Strengthening Family Court Resources:**

Adding new family courts is not simply about managing caseloads — it is about promoting equal access to a judicial system that is responsive, effective, and fair. With more courts, we can:

- **Continue reducing case backlogs** to provide faster resolutions for families in crisis.
- **Enhance judicial oversight for complex cases**, like high-conflict custody disputes, which require in-depth evaluation and careful adjudication.
- **Increase access to judicial resources**, ensuring that every case gets the attention and time it deserves.

### **Committed to Serving Harris County Families:**

The Harris County Family District Courts have demonstrated their ability to manage cases with expediency and care, and we remain committed to serving our community with integrity and innovation. By proactively expanding our courts, we will continue to serve as the standard for judicial excellence and affirm that every family in Harris County has access to timely and fair resolutions.

We invite our community leaders, stakeholders, and legislators to join us in supporting the future of family law in Harris County. Together, we will build a court system that meets the growing needs of our families today and for generations to come.

Let's lead with Harris County.

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