



# TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS ASSOCIATION

---

1350 NASA Parkway, Suite 200 · Houston, Texas 77058-2800 · 281-333-9229

September 1, 2009

Dear Judges, Clerks, Bailiffs, Warrant Officers, Prosecutors and other Court Personnel:

What I enjoy most working in a Municipal Court is the ability to make a positive impact directly on my local community. As I'm sure everyone reading this understands, we have such a tremendous ability to deter citizens (especially young defendants) who appear in our Court from ever appearing in another court in the future. What I have discovered and didn't know when I first became a Municipal Judge is the importance to us of the efforts of the Texas Municipal Courts Association, the parent organization of the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center. I cannot think of a better academic year than 2009-2010 for all Court personnel to see all the benefits of having a strong organization. The Texas Municipal Courts Association works tirelessly to make sure that the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center can provide for you the finest in educational services. At no time has this been more important than now given the financial constraints TMCEC, Courts, cities, and individuals are suffering through due to the economy.

However, TMCA does more than just support TMCEC's efforts to ensure you receive the best in timely education. Without the efforts of members of TMCA and Judge Robin Smith, our President last year, the Marriage Bill would probably not have passed. Throughout this past year, TMCA fought to make sure that all of our Courts benefit from legislative bills either by testifying for or against proposed legislation. I urge everyone who has not joined TMCA to consider joining and thank those who are now members. We all know what a great job TMCEC does, but I ask that you also think about the positive impact TMCA has on ensuring that our Courts perform well in our local communities. Here's to a great 2009-2010 academic year!

Very truly yours,

Texas Municipal Courts Association

Ed Spillane  
President  
Texas Municipal Courts Association  
Presiding Judge  
College Station Municipal Court  
979-764-3850  
espillane@cstx.gov