



TENESHIA HUDSPETH

COUNTY CLERK

Recording the Major Events of Your Life

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Veterans Residing in Harris County Can File Military Discharge Papers for Free at the Harris County Clerk's Office

(Houston, TX) – Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth encourages veterans residing in Harris County to file their military discharge papers (DD-214s) for free at the Harris County Clerk's Office (HCCO). A DD-214 or Military Discharge Paper is a document that is given to a person that has completed their service in the United States Armed Forces. This document contains pertinent information about their service and discharge from the military.

"We provide this service year-round, but Veterans Day is a good time to remind veterans that our office records this important document at no cost," **said Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth.** "In the event that a DD-214 is lost, it could take several weeks to receive a new one from the federal government."

DD-214s are usually needed when applying for benefits including medical care, Veterans Administration (VA) loans, and to prove eligibility for interment in a VA cemetery. By recording the DD-214s at HCCO, certified copies will always be available.

"The military services encourage all military personnel to file their discharge papers with the county clerk in their county of residence," **added Clerk Hudspeth.** "These documents are held in the strictest confidence and can only be accessed by the service member, family, legal guardian or authorized person."

DD-214s can be filed in person or by mail in the HCCO Personal Records Department at 201 Caroline St., Suite 330. The 10 annexes accept DD-214s, however, it may take 5-7 business days for the form to be filed based upon delivery to the downtown office.

If you did not file your DD-214 with the Harris County Clerk's Office, you can visit the National Archives Records website at <http://www.archives.gov> and request it online or you can call (314) 801-0800. Once you receive your certified copy from the National Archives, you may record your DD-214 with HCCO at no charge.

For information about the Harris County Clerk's Office and its services, visit www.cclerk.hctx.net or follow us **@HarrisCoTXClerk** on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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