



Laura Hinojosa

Hidalgo County District Clerk



Biography

Laura Hinojosa was elected Hidalgo County District Clerk in November 2006 and sworn into office January 1, 2007. She was reelected in November 2010 and is serving her second term in office. Laura has already distinguished herself as a committed public servant dedicated to providing the judicial system and the public with efficient and accountable service.

As District Clerk, Laura believes in progress through sound working relationships. She is dedicated to fulfilling her statutory and constitutional duties of office by working collaboratively with all stakeholders including the public, the courts, county staff, and elected officials. Laura is also committed to making technology a key component of accessing information from the district clerk office, as well as disseminating public

information and streamlining office processes.

Public Service Record

Laura is an educated and experienced leader striving to develop the district clerk office through accessibility, efficiency, fairness and accountability. She has made great progress by working diligently to improve public services, enhance policies and procedures, implement better systems of accountability, and conduct public education and outreach. Laura continues to develop the district clerk office through the following strategic goals:

- Optimizing customer service
- Capitalizing on Technology
- Achieving effective communication and office transparency
- Maximizing employee participation
- Delivering efficient and responsive government services

As a freshman clerk in office, Laura was appointed to serve as the Region VIII Director/Director-in-Charge of the *County and District Clerk Association of Texas* where she coordinated educational regional meetings, managed regional communications, and served as the liaison between the executive board and members in the region of the state. She currently serves as a chair of the association's statewide Legislative Committee. In this capacity, Laura has worked steadfastly with her colleagues to assist in reviewing and drafting sound legislation that affects clerks statewide. Laura has been a strong proponent of increased funding to assist in the preservation and restoration services performed by district clerks in connection with maintaining a district court records archives. During the 81st Texas Legislative Session, Laura was instrumental in helping pass SB 1685, which relates to the creation of a district court records technology fund to assist clerk's with this endeavor.

In 2010, Laura was appointed to serve on the *Texas Supreme Court Records Preservation Task Force*, which was created to develop a comprehensive plan to address the need to preserve court records across the state, develop a greater public awareness of the historical court records, and provide recommendations for how these records can be made more accessible to the public. Most recently, Laura was appointed by the Texas Supreme Court to serve on the *Judicial Committee on Information Technology*, which is working to establish standards and guidelines for the systematic implementation and integration of information technology into the trial and appellate courts in Texas. Laura was also appointed by the Texas Attorney General's Office to serve on the *Texas Child Support Workgroup*, a statewide committee working to address child support issues.

Personal Story

Prior to her election, Laura was a teacher at La Joya High School, South Texas ISD, and the Oratory Academy in Pharr, Texas. She attended the University of North Texas in Denton and earned a Bachelor of Arts and Science from the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg. Laura continues to be recognized as a leader through her affiliation with the following community organizations:

- County & District Clerk Association of Texas, Member
- Texas Association of Counties, Member
- National Association of County Officials, Member
- South Texas Literacy Coalition, Past President & Executive Board Member
- Texas Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, Member
- Boys & Girls Club of McAllen, Past President & Executive Board Member
- TRLA Community Justice Program – Partner & Recipient of 2008-09 Volunteer of the Year Award

Laura hails from a strong family tradition of public service. Her father in particular, Ruben Hinojosa, served as a school board member then on the Texas State Board of Education before representing the 15th Congressional District of Texas, where he is currently serving his 8th term in Congress.

Laura resides in McAllen, Texas with her family. She is married to Crispin Quintanilla III and mother to Diego Armand, Mia Aíza and Esteban Marcel.