## **Press Release**

August 22, 2008

Honorable Joy Streater Comal County Clerk/Local Registrar

## County Clerk announces State of Texas Change in Marriage License Fees.

Beginning September 1, 2008, the fee for a marriage license will increase to \$72.00 However, there is a way to get part of that fee waived.

The legislature passed HB 2685 last session which authorizes a statewide initiative to promote "Healthy Marriages".

The healthy marriage initiative in Texas promotes free, skills-based marriage education and provides couples with the tools they need to manage the challenges inherent to relationships. Classes taught in various venues around the state include eight hours of training focusing on communication skills, conflict resolution and the elements of a healthy marriage.

Beginning September 1, the couples who take the courses and are provided a certificate by the approved providers will have the added benefit of having \$60.00 of the marriage license fee waived. The only cost to the couple who have the certification is \$12.00 instead of the regular \$72. Those who do not take the course, beginning September 1 will pay \$72 for a marriage license.

For more information on where these courses are offered go to <a href="www.family-service.org">www.family-service.org</a> or <a href="www.togetherintexas.org">www.togetherintexas.org</a>