

Common Integrated Justice System

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	4 Yr. Cost
CIJS Software					\$ -
Court Administration and Prosecutor	\$ 250,000			\$ 800,000	\$ 1,050,000
Jail Management/Law Enforcement	\$ 187,500	\$ 187,500			\$ 375,000
Community Supervision	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000			\$ 150,000
Hot Checks	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000			\$ 90,000
Implementation Services					\$ -
Tyler Implementation Plan	\$ 17,400				\$ 17,400
Tyler Budget Estimate	\$ 500,000	\$ 746,110	\$ 252,710	\$ 1,498,820	\$ 1,498,820
Travel Expenses	\$ 2,000	\$ 57,000	\$ 86,000	\$ 27,256	\$ 172,256
Hardware and Third Party Software					\$ -
Tyler Estimate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CUC Texas County Enterprise Mods					\$ -
Hidalgo County Cost	\$ 36,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000
CUC Oversight					\$ -
Quality Assurance and Contract Administration	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 64,000
Totals by Fiscal Year	\$ 19,400	\$ 1,171,500	\$ 1,203,610	\$ 1,132,966	\$ 3,527,476



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Frequently Asked Questions

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Texas Clean Air Working Group

TechShare

TIHCA

Association Power

Public Power Pool

Member's Area

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• **What is the Conference of Urban Counties?**

The Texas Conference of Urban Counties is a non-profit organization composed of 37 member counties. Member counties represent nearly 80% of the population of Texas. The Urban Counties supports and coordinates communications among member counties, studies policies and programs of the State of Texas that affect urban counties, advocates county issues, primarily at the state level, and provides training and education programs appropriate for urban county officials. All services and activities are pursued for benefit of the people of Texas.

• **What does the Conference of Urban Counties do?**

Analysis and Legislative Representation

The Urban Counties provides analysis of legislation, state agency rulemaking and attorney general opinions to urban county officials. The Urban Counties represents the collected interests of Texas urban counties in working with the state agencies and the legislature.

• **Who are the current members?**

Bell County	El Paso County	Hunt County	Tarrant County
Bexar County	Ellis County	Jefferson County	Travis County
Brazoria County	Fort Bend County	Johnson County	Williamson County
Brazos County	Galveston County	Kaufman County	Wise County
Cameron County	Grayson County	Lubbock County	
Chambers County	Gregg County	McLennan County	
Collin County	Guadalupe County	Midland County	
Comal County	Harris County	Nueces County	
Dallas County	Hays County	Rockwall County	
Denton County	Hidalgo County	San Patricio County	

• **When was the Urban Counties formed?**

The Texas Conference of Urban Counties was formed in 1974 by the six most populous counties in Texas: Harris, Dallas, Bexar, Tarrant, El Paso, and Travis. The purpose was to provide a forum for urban county commissioners court members to discuss county government issues in urban Texas and to forge a united

front with state officials on urban issues. Because Texas has 254 counties, with only a relative handful that have urban issues, it was difficult for the statewide county associations to address or devote significant resources to the specific needs of urban county officials. Since its inception, it has been focus of the Urban Counties to advance the unique interests of urban counties in the state policy making process.

Over the years, other urban counties and urbanizing counties have recognized the benefit of belonging to the Conference of Urban Counties. Today there are 34 member counties representing roughly 80% of the population of the state of Texas.

▸ **Who are the officers?**

Urban Counties Board of Directors (FY 2005-2007)

Chairman	Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley
Chairman Elect	Midland County Judge Mike Bradford
Immediate Past Chairman	Bell County Commissioner Tim Brown
Vice Chairman Member Services	Dallas County Commissioner Mike Cantrell
Vice Chairman Finance	Fort Bend County Commissioner Andy Meyers
Vice Chairman Policy	Collin County Commissioner Phyllis Cole
Vice Chairman Administration	Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia
Vice Chairman Education	Comal County Commissioner Jay Millikin

Urban Counties officers are elected in the fall of odd numbered years by the membership of the Urban Counties. Officers assume office on January 1 of the even numbered year and serve for two years. Except for the chairman-elect, there is no automatic assumption of offices from one term to the next.

▸ **Who is in charge of the day to day operations?**

Urban Counties Staff

Executive Director	Donald Lee
General Counsel	Michael Pichinson
Program Manager	Michael Vasquez

▸ **Who is eligible to join?**

Under the Urban Counties Constitution and Bylaws, a county is eligible for membership if it:

- Has a population of 100,000 or more in the last Census; or
- Is one of two adjacent counties that form one MSA with a total population greater than 100,000.

A county may also apply for membership in the Urban Counties if it:

- Is contiguous to a member county and within the same Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) as determined by the US Census Bureau.
- Applications for membership are considered at the next business meeting of the Urban Counties and are approved upon a majority vote of the members present.

Bylaws-Urban Counties Bylaws

▸ **How does an eligible county join?**

Interested counties may contact either Donald Lee or Michael Vasquez at the Urban Counties offices for assistance in joining the Urban Counties. A county joins (or makes application) by adopting a minute order authorizing the county to become a member of the association and authorizing the necessary expenditures for membership dues.

▸ **What Continuing Education Credit is available?**

Odd numbered years: The Urban Counties sponsors the Legislative Update Series of luncheons during the legislative session. Each two-hour luncheon is eligible for 1.5 hours of continuing education credit for county commissioners.

Even numbered years: In the Spring the Urban Counties hosts a two day Education and Policy Conference for urban county officials, offering over ten hours of continuing education credit for the commissioners attending. The Education and Policy Conference is consistently rated as one of the best educational events available to county officials.

Recurring events: The Urban Counties sponsors two hour continuing education workshops and executive roundtables on issues of importance to urban county officials.

In May through November of the even-numbered years the legislative preparations intensify so there are fewer educational events scheduled.

▸ **Where can I learn more about the Urban Counties?**

You may contact Michael Vasquez, Urban Counties Program Manager, by [email](#) or by calling the Urban Counties offices at (512) 476-6174.

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