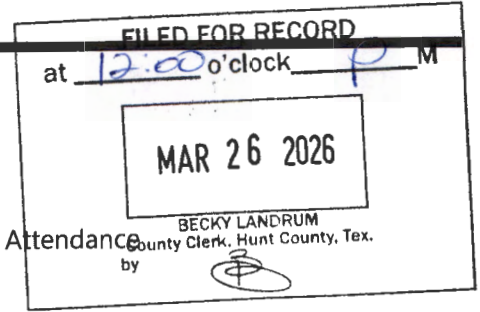


20014

Jessica Sims



**From:** Tammy Himes  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2026 11:02 AM  
**To:** Bobby W. Stovall; Bernice House  
**Cc:** Jessica Sims; Aubree Hitchman  
**Subject:** Request for Approval – TxPPA Spring Conference Attendance

Judge Stovall,

There is a TxPPA Spring Conference being held in Rockwall from April 13–16, 2026, that I would like the Purchasing Department to attend. Given that this is a local event, no overnight accommodations would be required, resulting in a cost savings to the County.

The conference registration fee is \$500 per person if we register today (increasing to \$575 after today). I would like to request approval for myself, Jeremiah Sanders, and Amber Martel to attend.

As you know, the Purchasing Department must maintain continuing education credits to keep our professional certifications current. This conference provides a valuable opportunity to obtain those required credits while minimizing expenses due to its proximity.

This year’s Training budget was reduced from \$6,000 to \$3,000 due to the department being unable to attend conferences last year as a result of illness and hospitalization. With staff now able to attend, it is important that we take advantage of this opportunity to stay compliant with certification requirements.

Due to the reduced Training budget, I am requesting approval to utilize contingency funds to cover the registration costs totaling \$1,500, along with minimal travel expenses for in-county and out-of-county mileage.

Since early registration pricing ends today, I would greatly appreciate your consideration and a timely response.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you,