



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **Denver Clerk Wins Two International Awards**

### *Honored for Innovation and Integrity*

DENVER — An international government association awarded the Denver Clerk and Recorder’s Office a pair of honors this morning at their annual conference in Orlando, Florida.

Clerk and Recorder Debra Johnson received the Innovator award for unique achievements and best practices. The Denver Office of the Clerk & Recorder took the fun out of waiting in line by slashing customer wait times. The series of innovation to reduce wait times included a streamlined website, putting millions of records online for public access, collaboration with Denver 311 and making more services available online.

Customer wait time dropped from 48 minutes to less than 30 seconds.

“We continue to look for ways to serve our customers quicker and better. We’ve worked hard to change the stodgy, bureaucratic perception of local government,” Clerk Johnson said. “And we think we’re succeeding.”

Deputy Denver Clerk and Recorder Juan Guzman received the Excellence in County Government Award from the International Association of Government Officials (iGO). The award goes to one individual who exemplifies leadership, ingenuity, excellence and integrity.

“Every day, Juan looks for ways to better serve Denverites and all Colorado residents,” said Clerk and Recorder Debra Johnson. “Juan has led the way in technological innovations – when they make sense for our staff and our customers. The focus on our customers means we want to serve our residents and allow business to thrive in Denver.”

Guzman heads the Clerk and Recorder Division which oversees marriage licensing, administers foreclosures and records and archives documents and city records.

Johnson and Guzman were instrumental in the passage of historic recording legislation which ensures that all Colorado counties have up-to-date electronic recording equipment. This legislation had little benefit for Denver but was key to maintain the efficiency and integrity of recording in Colorado.

They wrote and championed legislation closing the loopholes in Colorado’s proxy marriage laws to ensure marriage can’t be used for sex trafficking or bringing people into the country illegally. And they were at the forefront of the fight for marriage equality in Colorado in 2014.

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