Instructions for Completing and Filing the Oath of Office

EXECUTION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE

Pursuant to Texas Constitution art. XVI, § 1 (b) and (c), the Oath of Office may not be taken until a signed Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer has been completed and filed.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE

The Oath of Office may be administered by anyone authorized under the provisions of Texas Government Code § 602.002. Commonly used officials include notaries public and judges.

The seal of the person administering the Oath should be visible. If the person is a notary public, Texas Government Code § 406.013 requires that the seal be affixed in a way “that legibly reproduces the required elements of the seal under photographic methods.”

COMPLETION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE FORM

After the Oath of Office has been administered by a properly designated official, the newly appointed Health Authority should enter his/her name in the appropriate area of the form, sign the form and enter his/her mailing address and telephone number. The person administering the oath should then enter the date on which the oath was administered, enter his/her signature, printed name and title. The seal of the person administering the oath should be affixed in the designated area of the form.

FILING OF THE OATH OF OFFICE

Once the Oath of Office form has been completed and signed by both the Health Authority and the administering official, a copy should be mailed to the Regional Medical Director for the respective Health Service Region of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Please direct any questions regarding the Oath of Office form and instructions to your DSHS Health Service Region office or to the DSHS Division for Regional & Local Health Services office in Austin at (512) 776-7770.