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## **FORT BEND COUNTY RANKS 5<sup>TH</sup> IN NATION FOR JOB GROWTH ACCORDING TO CNN/MONEY MAGAZINE**

*Missouri City Ranks #21 in nation on list of 100 Best Places to Live*

**July 14, 2010 (Fort Bend County, TX)** – Fort Bend County, Texas climbs to fifth on a national list of counties who experienced the most job growth over the past nine years, according to *CNN/Money Magazine*. The county experienced 55 percent job growth from 2000-2009. The ranking is part of the magazine’s annual “America’s Best Places to Live” special feature. Fort Bend County ranked sixth on last year’s list.

In addition, Missouri City, which is located inside Fort Bend County, comes in at #21 on the publication’s “100 Best Places to Live” list for its affordable homes, low taxes and low crime rate.

“Recognitions such as these demonstrate what a great place Fort Bend County is for businesses and families to thrive and grow,” said Jeff Wiley, president of the Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council. “Our strong economy, low tax burden, low crime rate and overall low cost of doing business foster a very favorable business climate for those looking to relocate or start a new business -- thus creating new jobs.”

Job opportunities continue to increase in Fort Bend County. Most recently, Money Management International (MMI) announced its relocation to Sugar Land bringing an estimated 350 jobs to the county.

According to *CNN/Money Magazine* the county benefits from Houston’s oil industry with engineering and energy firms like Fluor Corporation and Schlumberger Technology and micro-electronics giant Texas Instruments. Plus, healthcare is another up-and-coming sector for the county as Memorial Hermann Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital opened new cancer treatment centers in 2009 and Methodist Sugar Land Hospital and Oakbend Medical Center also experienced expansion.

Fort Bend County is located in the Houston metropolitan area of southeast Texas. For more information about Fort Bend County, including a complete list of its recognitions, visit [www.fortbendcounty.com](http://www.fortbendcounty.com).

*About Fort Bend County*

*Fort Bend County is located in the Houston metropolitan area of southeast Texas. Its population is among the fastest growing in the United States and has been recognized among the most educated and diverse counties in the nation. According to the 2008 U.S. Census, Fort Bend County has more than 530,000 residents and is projected to grow to one million by 2017. Fort Bend's vibrant economy has also received national recognition. Fort Bend County is among the top 10 counties in the nation in terms of economic strength, according to Woods & Poole Economics, 2008. For more information about Fort Bend County including a complete list of recognitions, visit us at [www.fortbendcounty.com](http://www.fortbendcounty.com) or on Twitter and Facebook.*