

# Press Release



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## Jail Public Information Website receives Unit Citation

**HOUSTON, June 7, 2011** –The City of Houston Planning and Development Department’s Geographic Information System (GIS) Division teamed up with the Houston Police Department to create a Jail Public Information Inquiry Website. On Tuesday, June 7, Chief of Police, Charles McClelland, Jr. awarded the team a Chief of Police Unit Citation “in recognition of exceptional performance of duty resulting from the combined efforts of a multi-department and multi-agency team of professionals.”

For the first time, a person with Internet access could obtain information on a prisoner incarcerated in one of the Department’s jails without having to call the jail information line or physically go to a jail bonding office. Before the site, it was difficult and often time consuming to obtain information about a detained individual. The new technology allows citizens and bondsmen to locate a prisoner, get directions to the appropriate facility, and obtain information regarding the charges and the exact fine and/or bond amount. The information is available in English and Spanish. The site will save the city countless man hours and money and provides citizens with quick access to important information.

GIS staff Shen Wang, Hassan Sedaghat, and Michael Goh worked with HPD’s Concept and Project Management Team, Jail Division and the Technology Services Team. The site can be found at this link: <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/jails/>.

