

## **Fort Worth, Texas cities score well in business survey**

**BY ROBERT FRANCIS**

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Four Texas cities – including Fort Worth – were ranked in the 10 least expensive cities in which to own and operate a business in the U.S, according to a recent survey.

The 15th annual Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey, released July 20, provides a ranking of 411 cities across the country. The 10 least expensive cities, in alphabetical order are Austin, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Dallas; Eugene, Ore.; Everett, Ore.; Fort Worth; Gresham, Ore.; Houston; Portland and Reno.

The 10 most expensive cities, in alphabetical order: Akron, Ohio; Chicago; Jersey City; Los Angeles; New York City; Newark; Philadelphia; Phoenix; San Francisco; and Tucson.

The survey compares 411 cities nationwide based on the array of taxes and fees cities impose on businesses and that significantly affect business interests such as sales, utility, income, property, and business taxes. Two of the biggest determinants of a city's cost of doing business tend to be business license fees and property taxes, according to survey officials. The survey is done by the Rose Institute of State & Local Government at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, Calif.

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