



## Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

**Richard F. Cortez**  
*County Judge*

**David L. Fuentes**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 1*

**Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 2*

**Joe M. Flores**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 3*

**Ellie Torres**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 4*

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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, May 9, 2019

### **A new tool to survive emergencies unveiled at Commissioners Court**

**EDINBURG** – Hidalgo County Emergency Services District #2 and Precinct 1 have joined efforts in an initiative to assist emergency responders in providing lifesaving care to those who are unconscious or unable to communicate their symptoms with first responders.

The program, called "File of Life," consists of a magnetic folder designed to attach to the refrigerator, which contains vital health and medication information. It also comes with a sticker to be placed on the front door of the residence alerting EMT's the document is available.

"Seconds count," said ESD #2 Assistant Director of Operations Dawn Rodriguez. "The File of Life can make the difference between life and death."

The File of Life helps eliminate the panic, confusion, and fear that can occur during an emergency. It allows first responders to immediately begin the best possible treatment of any patient in need as it will contain the patient's medical history and information such as name, age, birth date, and any allergies, Rodriguez said.

This program is offered free of charge to rural county residents.

"File of Life is a simple and innovative way to allow first responders to quickly and efficiently address emergencies and get people the help they need," said Precinct 1 Commissioner David L. Fuentes. "I encourage all eligible residents to take advantage of this program and its benefits."

Through combined efforts, Emergency Service District #2 will be an advocate in leading local first responders in providing the highest levels of emergency planning, fire protection, and pre-hospital care services.

If you would like to request a File of Life package call (956) 457-0652.

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**PHOTO:** ESD #2 Assistant Director of Operations Dawn Rodriguez.