



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

**OFFICE OF
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RICHARD F. CORTEZ**

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 13, 2020

Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez advises residents to avoid large mass gatherings

Based on new advisories coming from state health experts regarding COVID-19, Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez is advising all residents to avoid public gatherings in which more than 1,000 people are expected.

His advisory came as a result of a Thursday afternoon conference call between Governor Greg Abbott, Texas health officials and county officials from across the state. During the call, state officials offered county officials three new guidelines related to mass gatherings:

- Organizers expecting more than 1,000 people should reconsider holding the event.
- The public and organizers should also consider indoor/outdoor crowd density.
- Event organizers should consider the essential nature of the gathering, including whether it is necessary or being held for leisure or entertainment.

"I take seriously any action that might have an economic impact on Hidalgo County," Judge Cortez said. "But even more serious is the health and well-being of Hidalgo County residents. Therefore, I am urging residents to follow the advice of state health experts and reconsider attending any mass gatherings that involve large crowds."

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Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the over 800,000 residents of our county. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility. Follow our social media feed at www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/followus