



## Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

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

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

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

**Everardo "Ever" Villarreal**  
*Commissioner, Precinct 3*

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

**OFFICE OF  
COUNTY JUDGE  
RICHARD F. CORTEZ**

**Public Affairs Division**

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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

### **Commissioners Court declares March 21 COVID-19 Memorial Day in Hidalgo County**

**EDINBURG** – The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court declared March 21 COVID-19 Memorial Day and urged all residents of the county to take a moment on that day to remember those we have lost; to reflect on our community's response; and to resolve to overcome the ongoing pandemic.

The declaration came in a proclamation offered by Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez. March 21 marks the day that Hidalgo County saw its first confirmed case of COVID-19, which occurred two years ago in 2020.

"This has been one of the most challenging periods in Hidalgo County's history," Judge Cortez said. "But people rallied to help one another and we will emerge from this terrible pandemic as a much stronger, much closer community."

Since the first case was diagnosed, nearly 200,000 people in Hidalgo County have tested positive for the virus. Nearly 4,000 residents have died from the disease.

To commemorate COVID-19 Memorial Day, Judge Cortez will be hosting a multi-denominational prayer service on March 21.

Details about the prayer service will be released at a later date.

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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](http://www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/followus)*