

## RESOLUTION HONORING DR. WILLIAM L. TURK

**WHEREAS**, Dr. William L. Turk a resident of McAllen, Texas, is being honored for his accomplished academic service and 40 plus years of work history as an educator and businessman; and for his drive to motivate, influence and inspire his colleagues and students; and

**WHEREAS**, born and raised in Iowa, Dr. Turk was a first-generation college student and was a Marine Corps veteran before entering college; Dr. Turk faced the challenges similar to those encountered by most of today's college students, however after applying dedication and discipline, Dr. Turk continued his education at Iowa State University earning both a Bachelor and Master of Science degree in Government in 1967; and

**WHEREAS**, after working as a social science analyst for three years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Turk joined his father and mother who had relocated and bought a business in McAllen; Dr. Turk later purchased their business - McAllen Rental Service - and ran it successfully from 1973 to 1991; while running a successful business and becoming a leader in the rental equipment industry, Dr. Turk held on to his passion for teaching government part-time at then Pan American University; and became a full time lecturer in 1990; Dr. Turk decided to return to school to achieve a long time goal of a doctoral degree and commuted 1,056 miles round trip weekly for four years to earn his Ph.D. in Urban and Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington in 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, most recently, Dr. Turk served as Director of the Master of Public Administration Program at the University of Texas-Pan American and in 2009 was honored with the college of Social Science and Behavioral Sciences' Excellence in Service Award for his leadership as a faculty member, and for his service as coordinator of a three year process to reaffirm UTPA's accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities, which was completed successfully at the end of 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Turk, a lifelong educator and businessman, has held numerous positions and memberships; he is a current member of the Texas Association of College Teachers and the Texas City Management Association and has served as the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities Coordinator & Liaison at UTPA from 2004 to 2008; as well as, participated in the Executive Committee, Faculty Senate in 1998, and served as Chairman for the Institutional Assessment Committee, from 2000 to 2003; Dr. Turk also served in the Texas Attorney General's Sub-Committee on Legislative Affairs in 1989; and in 1995 honored by the Pi Alpha Alpha, National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration;

**WHEREAS**, this year Dr. Turk will be retiring from UTPA, leaving his position where during his 23 years he taught a very real and direct approach that has shaped professionals and future leaders of Hidalgo County and the Rio Grande Valley.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby congratulates and honors Dr. William L. Turk on the occasion of his retirement and for his tenacity and commitment to educate and inspire college students of Hidalgo County and the Rio Grande Valley.

Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2013.



A.C. CUELLAR, JR.  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



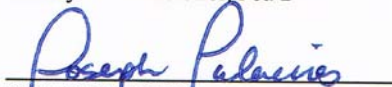
RAMON GARCIA  
County Judge



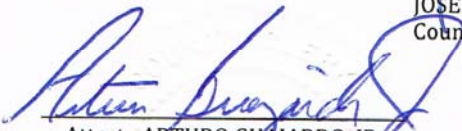
HECTOR "TITO" PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



JOE M. FLORES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



JOSEPH PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Attest: ARTURO GUJARDO, JR.  
County Clerk