

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
VETERANS TREATMENT COURT AND VETERANS DAY**

WHEREAS, November 11, 2013 marks the twelfth straight year of America at war and there are now more than 23 million U.S. veterans, including 2.4 million from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, the United States military instills a sense of honor, duty, leadership, commitment and respect, evident in the millions of veterans who have returned home to their communities as productive citizens, strengthened by their military experience; and

WHEREAS, one in five veterans has symptoms of a mental disorder or cognitive impairment, one in six veterans from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom suffers from a substance abuse issue, and research continues to draw a link between substance abuse and combat-related mental illness; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of veterans nationwide are appearing in the courts to face charges stemming directly from these issues; and

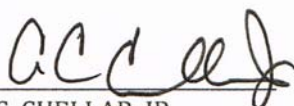
WHEREAS, Veteran Treatment Courts are our communities' response to the growing need for an alternative to incarceration, specifically for justice-involved veterans; and

WHEREAS, Veterans share an inimitable bond among their peers and the Treatment Court builds upon the camaraderie by allowing participants to go through the treatment court process with people who are similarly situated and have common past experiences; and


WHEREAS, Veteran Treatment Courts have captured national attention as a critical tool for ensuring that Veterans in the criminal justice system do not fall through the cracks.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Hidalgo County Commissioners Court** does hereby declare that the "Veterans Treatment Court" be recognized as a critical solution for saving the lives, families and futures of our nation's Veterans and thank all Veterans for their service as we celebrate Veterans Day on November 11, 2013.

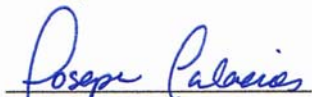
Approved this 5th day of November, 2013.



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 GUAJARDO, JR.
Hidalgo County Clerk