



Contact: Julia Benitez Sullivan
Phone: 956.292.7026
Email: public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 30, 2014

SOUTH TEXAS HURRICANE CONFERENCE JUNE 4-5 Emergency management in worst-case scenario

MCALLEN – The second annual South Texas Hurricane Conference will focus on the worst-case scenario – mass casualties. In addition to fatalities, mass casualty scenarios include situations where large numbers of injured people overwhelm the emergency responders and medical facilities. This type of event poses significant challenges to the best disaster response plans.

While the National Weather Service has predicted a normal to below-average hurricane season – between eight to 13 named storms and three to six hurricanes, with one or two that could potentially strengthen to major storms –it only takes one to wreak havoc.

Presenters include representatives from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Joint Operations Directorate, Texas Commission of Environmental Quality, National Weather Service, American Red Cross, Texas General Land Office, Texas Department of State Health Services, and the Texas Department of Transportation. Speakers at the opening session include Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia, David Gruber, from the Department of State Health Services, and McAllen Mayor Jim Darling.

The annual conference is organized by Hidalgo County and the City of McAllen with primary funding from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Press packets will be available at the Hidalgo County Public Affairs booth and during the news conference.

DETAILS

- WHO:** Hidalgo County and local officials and emergency management experts
- WHAT:** News Conference
- WHEN:** Wednesday, June 4, 2014
10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
- WHERE:** McAllen Convention Center – Ballroom Lobby
700 Convention Center Blvd.
(West entrance, facing Ware Road)

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Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

A. C. Cuellar, Jr.
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

OFFICE OF HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE RAMON GARCIA

Public Affairs Division

302 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 292-7026 P
(956) 292-7766 F
www.co.hidalgo.tx.us W
public.info@co.hidalgo.tx.us E