



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

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

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 13, 2015

2015 SOUTH TEXAS HURRICANE CONFERENCE APRIL 14 – 15 Resilient Regional Communities Tools for Today & Tomorrow

MCALLEN – The third annual South Texas Hurricane Conference will focus on building resilient regional communities through the provision of educational tools for today and tomorrow. The two day conference will be held Tuesday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 15 at the McAllen Convention Center.

In the past year, the Rio Grande Valley has faced numerous emergency management challenges, most notably the immigration surge of thousands coming from Central America into the valley. Working as a regional community we were able to address the issue and collaborate on a solution to help the thousands of families who crossed our borders.

This year, the conference is split into six educational tracks: Public Health and Hospitals; Emergency Response; Law Enforcement; Educational Institutions; Faith Based and Non-Profits; and COOP Continuity of Operations Planning for Business. Presenters include representatives from the Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas Commission of Environmental Quality, National Weather Service, Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Speakers at the opening session include McAllen Mayor Jim Darling, Texas Division of Emergency Management State Coordinator for Region 3 Tony Peña Jr., Hidalgo County Emergency Management Coordinator Ricardo Saldaña, Hidalgo County Health and Human Service Chief Administrative Officer Eddie Olivarez and Edinburg Fire Chief Shawn Snider.

The annual conference is organized by Hidalgo County Health and Human Services, Hidalgo County Emergency Management, the City of McAllen and the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) with primary funding from the Texas Department of State Health Services. Press packets will be available from Hidalgo County Public Affairs before the news conference.

DETAILS

WHO: Hidalgo County and local officials and emergency management experts

WHAT: News Conference

WHEN: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 from 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 is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the 800,000 residents of our county as well as a variety of services to residents who live outside city limits. 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.