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HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

PRESS RELEASE

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DISTRICT CLERK STAFF MAKES A DONATION TO HELP SHARE THE GIFT OF READING

Edinburg, Texas – District clerk staff presented a check yesterday to the South Texas Literacy Coalition (STLC) in the amount of \$2,250, as a part of their *Blues for Bucks Workplace Fundraising Campaign*. The staff-lead program allows employees to wear jeans on Fridays in exchange for a \$5 donation. The funds are collected for a six month period then presented to a nonprofit organization that is randomly predetermined from a pool of staff-selected charitable organizations.

“We are elated to accept such a gracious donation from district clerk staff, which will allow us to purchase an additional 1,000 books to continue sharing the gift of reading,” said Dr. Ida Acuña-Garza, STLC Chief Executive Officer.

“I am extremely proud of my staff,” added Laura Hinojosa, District Clerk. “Jean day is not required, yet every Friday staff lines up to make their donation, which over the years, has made a big difference for many people and organizations throughout the county.”

During the check presentation, the STLC also presented two Little Free Libraries to the San Carlos and Alamo Community Centers. Accepting the library on behalf of Commissioner Eddie Cantu’s Office (Pct 2) was Mr. Armando Garza, Jr and Mr. Rogelio Astudillo with the Alamo Community Center. Also present was Ms. Lizbeth Gonzalez who accepted the little library on behalf of Commissioner Joseph Palacios’ Office (Pct 4) and the San Carlos Community Center.

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“We look forward to further expanding access to literacy resources through these Little Free Libraries, said Dr. Acuña-Garza. “We are committed to working with our county representatives and literacy partners county-wide to continue promoting the importance of literacy to help achieve academic success and help improve the quality of life in our region.”

The Little Free Library is a free book exchange centered around the “take a book, return a book,” model. Precinct offices will work with community centers to identify an outdoor area to situate the Little Free Libraries. Once erected, the STLC will also be contributing free books to replenish the libraries as requested.

The STLC, is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting literacy skills for all individuals in the border region to cultivate a more literate community and, as a result, help enhance the quality of life for all. The STLC is well-known for their Books Distribution Initiative, which puts free brand new books in the hands of children, students and families throughout the region, to help foster the love of reading, particularly among children.

To learn more about the STLC log on to: www.southtexaslitcoalition.org

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