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COUNTY JUDGE

310 N. Mesa, Suite 824, El Paso, Texas 79901  
Tel: (915) 838-6860 • Fax: (915) 838-6880  
Washington, D.C. Tel: (202) 220-3120 • Fax: (202) 329-8901  
[www.bordercounties.org](http://www.bordercounties.org)

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July 1, 2008

Dear Coalition Member:

Enclosed is an invoice dated July 1, 2008 for your county's 2008/2009 membership dues for the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition. Please note that this invoice reflects a ¼% automatic dues increase as adopted by the Board in March 2006. Your prompt payment of these dues will be most appreciated and will allow us to continue the vital work of the Coalition.

The US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition continues to strongly represent your interests and is recognized in Washington, D.C. as a leading advocate for border issues.

In March 2008, the Coalition released its study entitled *Undocumented Immigrants in U.S./Mexico Border Counties: The Cost of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Services*. This study, which updates a previous study released in 2001, has generated widespread interest in Washington, D.C. and throughout the nation. In fact, the Coalition recently testified before the House Judiciary Committee regarding the findings of this report.

The Coalition again has continued its advocacy for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) and the Southwest Border Prosecution Initiative (SWBPI). Members of the Coalition met with Department of Justice officials in March 2008 in Washington, D.C. and with key Members of Congress and reiterated once again the importance of these programs to border counties. As of this date, the House has included \$420 million for SCAAP in its Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. The Senate has included \$355 million for SCAAP and \$25 million for SWBPI. The Coalition will be working to increase these funding levels.

As we head into the fall elections and anticipate a new Administration, the Coalition will be closely monitoring any new developments in the areas of immigration reform and border security, among others. We have started our outreach efforts with the McCain and Obama transition teams to ensure that our issues are addressed by the new Administration. We will continue to meet with the transition teams throughout the summer and fall as they develop their budget proposals for FY2010.

Please renew your support today or, if you haven't joined previously, please join with your fellow border counties to make a positive difference for our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David M. Austin", written in a cursive style.

David M. Austin  
Border Representative

Enclosure

The United States/Mexico Border Counties Coalition

El Paso Office  
310 N. Mesa, Suite 824  
El Paso, Texas 79901

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/1/2008	535

Bill To
The Honorable J.D. Salinas Hidalgo County PO Box 1356 Edinburg TX 78540

Description	Amount
Annual dues 2008/2009	10,506.25
Thank you for your support!	<b>Total</b> \$10,506.25