



**HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS  
APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL TRAVEL**

DATE OF REQUEST: 10/19/10  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES TRAVELING: 1  
 DEPARTMENT NAME: Planning  
 NAME & TITLE OF EMPLOYEE(S) TRAVELING: Raul E. Sesin, P.E., C.F.M. Planning Administrator

**EVENT INFORMATION**

TITLE OF EVENT: Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuation-Second Hearing  
 EVENT DATE(S) FROM: Oct. 18, 2010 TO: Oct. 18, 2010  
 DEPARTURE DATE: Oct. 17, 2010 RETURN DATE: Oct. 19, 2010  
 LOCATION OF EVENT: CITY: Austin STATE: Texas

**PURPOSE OF TRAVEL**

- Place an "X" by the applicable purpose of the trip.
- To obtain statutorily required continuing professional education.
  - To obtain continuing education related to an employee's work or maintenance of a license or certification.
  - To testify before legislative bodies, regulatory agencies and commissions, and other forums that may make decisions affecting the County and its affiliated organizations and operations.
  - To participate in professional organizations related to the employee or official's job assignment.
  - To conduct essential research & information-gathering for improvement of County operations or compliance with law.
  - To monitor the development of state or federal legislation or implementation of legislation that might affect the County
  - To participate in forums, coalitions, & discussions relating to the policy, legislative & regulatory interests of the County
  - To pursue the County's interests in litigation or criminal justice.
  - To promote the economic development interests of the County.
  - To carry out other purposes determined by Commissioners' Court to be in the interest of the County (Commissioners' Court approval is attached).

**JUSTIFICATION FOR THE NEED TO TRAVEL OUT-OF-STATE**

Explain the benefits that this trip it will bring to Hidalgo County. Attach an itinerary, agenda, or schedule for the conference and/ or event. If applicable, justify the need for multiple persons traveling to the same event.  
 Hidalgo County Judge, Rene Ramirez, called Raul E. Sesin, P.E., C.F.M., on Sunday, 10/17/10 and requested Mr. Sesin to be present at the Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations-Second Hearing to testify on drainage improvements to avoid flooding with in Hidalgo County. The meeting was held at Austin, Texas on Monday, 10/18/10.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED TRAVEL EXPENSES	ESTIMATED EXPENSES	(DBM USE ONLY) FUNDS AVAILABLE BALANCE	MODE OF TRAVEL (Place an "X" by applicable mode of travel)
1. REGISTRATION FEE(S)	\$ -		AIRFARE*
Subtotal for Object Code 584	\$ -	\$	BUS*
2. AIRFARE- ROUNDTRIP COACH FARE ONLY	\$ -		Rental Car**
3. TAXI FARE	\$ -		County Vehicle**
4. BUS FARE	\$ -		Private Vehicle**
5. RENTAL CAR	\$ -		OTHER** (Specify) <u>Used County Vehicle for Travel</u>
6. GASOLINE/DIESEL/FUEL	\$ -		* If traveling by airplane, the traveler should consider purchasing a refundable fare if possibility of a cancellation exists.
7. MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$ -		
8. TELEPHONE CALLS	\$ -		** If mode of travel includes bus, rental car, county vehicle, private vehicle, or other form of transportation, a comparison of the savings that will be achieved by not choosing to travel by airplane must be provided with supporting documentation.
9. PARKING	\$ 27.06		
10. LODGING	\$ 258.75		
11. MEALS	\$ 78.00		
12. OTHER EXPENSES			
Subtotal for Object Code 583	\$ 363.81		
13. TOTAL ESTIMATED TRAVEL EXPENSES	\$ 363.81	\$	

14. IF HIDALGO COUNTY IS NOT FUNDING ANY OR PART OF THIS TRIP, INDICATE BELOW THE EXPENSE TYPE & SOURCE OF PAYMENT:

NOTE: If trip duration is extended to take advantage of lower airfare, a comparison of the savings to the additional estimated cost must be provided with supporting airfare rate documentation.

**ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPARTMENT HEAD CERTIFICATION (Place an "X" by each of the certifications)**

I certify that:  
 Trip expenses are necessary and will be incurred for official county business.  
 Reasonable efforts to minimize the use of county funds have been explored.  
 Sufficient funds are available within in my department's budget to pay for the related travel expenses without the need of a budget amendment.

If this trip is for out-of-state training, the training is not available in some other form that does not require out-of-state travel.  
 APPROVED BY ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPARTMENT HEAD: [Signature] DATE: 10/21/10 DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON: Irma Celia Castillo PHONE NO.: (956) 318-2840

**FOR DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT (DBM) USE ONLY:**

TRAVEL IS APPROVED for the individuals listed below:  
 TRAVEL IS NOT APPROVED for the individuals listed below:

REVIEWED BY (PRINT NAME): DATE: REVIEWER'S SIGNATURE: PHONE NO.:  
 DBM'S DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL (PRINT NAME): DATE: SIGNATURE OF DBM DEPARTMENT HEAD:



# HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

## OUT - OF - COUNTY

### FINAL TRAVEL EXPENSE CLAIM

**EMPLOYEE NAME:** Raul E. Sesin      **DEPARTMENT:** Planning Dept.  
**TRAVEL TO CITY:** Austin      **STATE:** Texas  
**DEPARTURE DATE:** 10/17/2010      **RETURN DATE:** 10/19/2010  
**TIME OF DEPARTURE:** 3:00 PM      **TIME OF RETURN:** 2:30 PM  
**PURPOSE OF TRIP:** Hidalgo County Judge, Rene Ramirez, called Raul E. Sesin, P.E., C.F.M., on Sunday, 10/17/10 and requested Mr. Sesin to be present at the Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations-Second Hearing to testify on drainage improvements to avoid flooding within Hidalgo County. The meeting was held at Austin, Texas on Monday, 10/18/10.

**I. REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENDITURES MADE ON ACCOUNT OF OFFICE BUSINESS:**

DESCRIPTION OF TRIP	DATES OF TRAVEL FOR YEAR						2010
	MONTH / DAY	MONTH / DAY	MONTH / DAY	MONTH / DAY	MONTH / DAY	MONTH / DAY	
	10/17	10/18	10/19	10/20	10/21	10/22	TOTALS
Airline / Bus / Train							\$ -
Car Rental							-
Gasoline for Car Rental							-
Personal Car Mileage	Beginning		Ending		TOTAL MILEAGE:	(MILEAGE RATE)	
ODOMETER READINGS:	Mileage:		Mileage:		-	0.50	

**NOTE:** Mileage is calculated on a point-to-point basis using "Mapquest". Reasonable incidental travel may be reimbursed when the traveler provides specific address destination points by using "Mapquest" to determine mileage. The most direct distance to the destination will be allowed. Any out-of-way or unreasonable travel distance as determined by the County Auditor will be at the expense of the traveler.

Hotel (Excluding Meals)	258.75						258.75
Parking / Tolls	27.06						27.06
Taxi and Other Ground Transportation							-
Telephone							-
Registration Fees							-
<b>MEALS (based upon actual charges)</b>		<b>NOTE: When traveling out of state trip and claiming actual meal expenses, receipts must be provided for all days of travel. If not reimbursement will be based on the \$39 per diem.</b>					
Type of Travel (In State =1 /Out of State =2)	1						
With Receipts = 1 / Without Receipts = 2	2	2	2				
Breakfast (\$9 per diem)		9.00	9.00				
Lunch (\$12 per diem)		12.00	12.00				
Dinner (\$18 per diem)	18.00	18.00					
<b>Total Actual Meal Expense</b>	38.00	39.00	21.00				
Total Allowable Meal Expense per County Policy (County Employee)	18.00	39.00	21.00				78.00

**Other (Please explain below):** NOTE: HOTEL WILL REIMBURSE HIDALGO COUNTY \$15.30 FOR TAXES PAID. Used County Vehicle for transportation.

II. Travel Expenditures paid by COUNTY CHECK or COUNTY CREDIT CARD that were NOT advanced to employee. (i.e. Airfare, Hotel accommodations, Car Rentals, Registration)				TOTAL FROM T-4 CONTINUATION FORM	
Payee Name	Expense Type	Check No./ P.O. No.	Amount		
				TOTAL ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES	\$ 363.81
				AMOUNTS ADVANCED TO EMPLOYEE ON:	\$ -
				TRAVEL EXPENDITURES PAID BY COUNTY CK OR COUNTY CREDIT CARD NOT ADVANCED TO EMPLOYEE	-
				REMIT TO ME	\$ 363.81
				REMITTED TO COUNTY TREASURER ON	
<b>Total</b>				\$ -	
				TREASURER RECEIPT NO.	\$ 0.00

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The above funds were used solely for official County business. I have not and do not anticipate to receive reimbursement for the above listed travel expenditures from another source.

**EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE:** [Signature]      **DATE:** 10/21/10  
**APPROVED BY:** [Signature]      **DIVISION DIRECTOR/SUPERVISOR:** [Signature]      **DATE:** 10/21/10  
**APPROVED FOR PAYMENT BY:** [Signature]      **DEPARTMENT HEAD:** [Signature]  
**COUNTY AUDITOR'S FORM: T.1.4 (01/10)**      **GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 0-1100-419-10-210-001-0-583  
**Note:** This report is due no later than 20 calendar days of return from travel.



700 SAN JACINTO  
 AUSTIN TX 78701  
 Tele- 512-476-3700 Fax- 512-397-4888

SESIN, RAUL

Room Number: 928  
 Daily Rate: \$121.00  
 Room Type: KN  
 No. of Guests: 2 / 0

ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE	CREDIT CARD	RATE CODE	MKT GROUP	ACCOUNT
10/17/10	10/18/10	XXXXXXXXXXXX0885	GOVT	GOVT	13600897664

DATE	ROOM NO	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
10/17/10	928	VALET PARKING	VALET PARKING SUN. 26-158	\$25.00
10/17/10	928	SALES TAX ON PARKING	SALES TAX ON PARKING	\$2.06
10/17/10	928	ROOM CHARGE	#928 SESIN, RAUL	\$121.00
10/17/10	928	CITY OCCUPANCY TAX 9%	CITY OCCUPANCY TAX 9%	\$10.89
10/17/10	928	STATE OCCUPANCY TAX 6%	STATE OCCUPANCY TAX 6%	\$7.26
10/18/10	928	VISA	VISA	(\$166.21)

CREDIT DUE:                      (\$0.00)

**1-800-THE-OMNI**

TERMS: DUE AND PAYABLE UPON PRESENTATION. I AGREE THAT MY LIABILITY FOR THIS BILL IS NOT WAIVED AND AGREE TO BE HELD PERSONALLY LIABLE IN THE EVENT THAT THE INDICATED PERSON, COMPANY OR ASSOCIATION FAILS TO PAY FOR ANY PART OR THE FULL AMOUNT OF THESE CHARGES.

**OMNI HOTELS & RESORTS**

downtown | austin  
700 San Jacinto @ 8th Street  
Austin, TX 78701  
Phone: (512) 476-3700  
Fax: (512) 397-4888

700 SAN JACINTO

AUSTIN TX 78701

Tele- 512-476-3700 Fax- 512-397-4888

SESIN, RAUL  
Government  
2110 Diane Dr  
Mission TX 78572

Room Number: 1514  
Daily Rate: \$104.00  
Room Type: KN  
No. of Guests: 1 / 0

ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE	CREDIT CARD	RATE CODE	MKT GROUP	ACCOUNT
10/18/10	10/19/10	XXXXXXXXXXXX0885	STAT	GOVT	13600898077

DATE	ROOM NO	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
10/18/10	1514	ROOM CHARGE	#1514 SESIN, RAUL	\$104.00
10/18/10	1514	CITY OCCUPANCY TAX 9%	CITY OCCUPANCY TAX 9%	\$9.36
10/18/10	1514	STATE OCCUPANCY TAX 6%	STATE OCCUPANCY TAX 6%	\$6.24
10/19/10	1514	VISA	VISA	(\$119.60)

TOTAL DUE: \$0.00

**1-800-THE-OMNI**

TERMS: DUE AND PAYABLE UPON PRESENTATION. I AGREE THAT MY LIABILITY FOR THIS BILL IS NOT WAIVED AND AGREE TO BE HELD PERSONALLY LIABLE IN THE EVENT THAT THE INDICATED PERSON, COMPANY OR ASSOCIATION FAILS TO PAY FOR ANY PART OR THE FULL AMOUNT OF THESE CHARGES.

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**From:** "Rene Ramirez" <rene.ramirez@hidalgocountyjudge.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 02, 2010 8:31 AM  
**Attach:** ATT00008.ics  
**Subject:** Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations - Second Hearing

\*Consider flooding issue in RGV

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

S/C on Flooding & Evacuations

2:00 PM, Monday, October 18, 2010

E1.016 (Hearing Room) Austin, Texas

Senator Mario Gallegos, Jr.

The Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations will meet on Monday, October 18, 2010 at 2pm in E1.016.

The Committee will consider the following charges:

Charge One: Study the benefit of legislation that would require coastal regions, when making routine improvements to drainage systems and other infrastructure, to take into account probability of future flooding and

any upgrades necessary to prevent future flooding.

Charge 3: Study and make recommendations relating to cost effective options to either retrofit or require new building structures to be built as shelters for use during future evacuations.

Invited and public testimony will be taken. Public testimony will be limited to three minutes.

## **Irma Castillo**

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**Subject:** Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations - Second Hearing  
**Location:** Austin  
**Start:** Mon 10/18/2010 2:00 PM  
**End:** Mon 10/18/2010 6:30 PM  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

\*Consider flooding issue in RGV

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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any upgrades necessary to prevent future flooding.

**Charge 3: Study and make recommendations relating to cost effective**

options to either retrofit or require new building structures to be built

as shelters for use during future evacuations.

**Invited and public testimony will be taken. Public testimony will be**

limited to three minutes.



Thanks,

**Sean David Abbott**

Office of Senator Mario Gallegos, Jr.  
PO Box 12068  
Austin, TX 78711  
ph: 512.463.0106

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**From:** Sean Abbott\_SC

**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2010 3:16 PM

**To:** g.g@hcdd1.org

**Subject:** Senate Subcommittee on Flooding & Evacuations/October 18 Hearing @ The Capitol

Hello Godfrey,

I hope this email finds you well.

Wanted to take a moment to follow up with you regarding our hearing on Monday, October 18th. The hearing will begin at 2pm in Room E1.016, which is in the Capitol Extension. After speaking briefly with your secretary, it sounds like you'll be able to make the hearing? Please let me know if you'll be unable to attend.

If you could include the following topics in your testimony, it would be greatly appreciated:

- talk about what the Hidalgo County drainage district does, as a large special purpose district
- speak to the need for a larger group to manage the flooding/drainage needs of the LRGV
- benefits of having a large organized group -- whether a special purpose district or a cooperative effort
- the advantages to having a large special purpose district vs. a cooperative effort

Please don't feel limited to these specific topics. However, if you could cover them in your testimony, it would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you would like to use visual aids/maps/PPT's during your testimony. Also, if you could provide me with a summary of your anticipated testimony by Wednesday, October 13th, it would be greatly appreciated. Additionally, due to time constraints we will be attempting to have witnesses limit their testimony to 5 minutes.

Thanks again for your willingness to assist. Please let me know if you have any questions/concerns.

Regards,

**Sean David Abbott**

Office of Senator Mario Gallegos, Jr.  
PO Box 12068  
Austin, TX 78711  
ph: 512.463.0106