

Section 504 Grievance Procedure

The County of Hidalgo, Texas has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations (24 CFR 8.4(a) implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended (29 USC 794)). Section 504 states, in part that, "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..."

Complaints should be addressed to: Hidalgo County Urban County Program (UCP) Executive Director at 3304 W. Alberta Rd., Edinburg, Tx 78539, and/or call (956)787-8127, who has been designated to coordinate Section 504 compliance efforts.

A complaint should be filed in writing or verbally, contain the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describe the alleged violation of the regulations.

A complaint should be filed within ten (10) working days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation. (Processing of allegations of discrimination occurring before this grievance procedure was in place will be considered on a case-by-case basis).

An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of a complaint. The investigation will be conducted by the UCP Executive Director and/or designee. Informal but thorough investigations will afford all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint.

A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and description of resolution, if any, shall be issued by the UCP Executive Director and/or designee, and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than ten (10) working days after its filing.

The Section 504 coordinator shall maintain the files and records of the County of Hidalgo relating to the complaints files.

The complainant can request a reconsideration of the case in instances where he or she is dissatisfied with the resolution. The request for reconsideration should be made within ten (10) working days to the County of Hidalgo.

The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a Section 504 complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Utilization of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

These rules shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons, to meet appropriate due process standards and assure that the County of Hidalgo complies with Section 504 and HUD regulations.

A1003

Excessive Force Policy Excessive Force Resolution

A resolution establishing rules and regulations regarding the use of excessive force during nonviolent civil rights demonstrations, including physically barring entrance to a facility or location which is the subject of such demonstrations, and providing penalties for violations thereof; In the County of Hidalgo, State of Texas, as follows:

ARTICLE I

It is the policy of the County of Hidalgo to prohibit the use of excessive force by the law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. The County also prohibits the physical barring of any entrance to, or exit from, such a facility within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE II

It is the policy of the County to enforce this policy to the full extent allowed by law.

ARTICLE III

Passed and adopted by County Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo, State of Texas, on the 10th day of September, 2013.

Ramon Garcia
Hidalgo County Judge

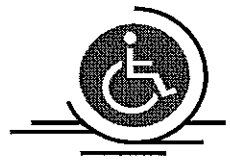
Attest:

Arturo Guajardo, Jr.
Hidalgo County Clerk

A1008



**Designation Form for Section 504
Equal Opportunity/Fair Housing Officer**



County: Hidalgo County TxCDBG Contract # 713005
Address: 3304 W. Alberta Rd.
Edinburg, Tx 78539
Telephone #: (956)787-8127

I, Ramon Garcia, Hidalgo County Judge, do hereby appoint, Hidalgo County Urban
County Program Executive Director as the Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity/Section 504
Standards Officer for the County of Hidalgo, Tx. The Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity /Section
504 Standards Officer shall be responsible for the oversight and compliance of fair housing and
equal opportunity activities to be performed by the County of Hidalgo, Tx, as required by the
Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Contract No. **713005**.

The Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity/Section 504 Standards Officer is responsible for being
familiar with and adhering to all civil rights laws and regulations pertaining to the Texas
Community Development Block Grant Program, including those described in the TxCDBG
Implementation Manual and those listed in Exhibit D of the TxCDBG contract.

Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity/Section 504 Standards Officer: _____
(Signature)

Appointed by: _____ Date: _____
Hidalgo County Judge (signature)