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OCT 15 2013

COUNTY JUDGE

3414 Montana • El Paso, Texas • 79903
(915) 525-9040
www.bordercounties.org

October 10, 2013

Dear Coalition Member:

Enclosed for your consideration is the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition 2013/2014 membership dues invoice.

Yes, budgets are strained – the impacts of sequestration are being felt at the local level and Congress is at an impasse. The unintended consequences of increased border security are being seen and felt between and at our ports of entry. Long-standing programs vital to our local economies, such as the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program and the Southwest Border Prosecution Initiative, remain under constant attack by misguided budget hawks in Congress. Earmarks, upon which the Coalition derived funding for important studies, are no longer available.

All this suggests that your support and participation are more important than ever. If the Border is to be heard, we must stand as one and work together. Your support and participation are critical to our success.

The Coalition has been working diligently to address these concerns. Currently, we are working to secure legislation that would authorize the Department of Homeland Security and Border Patrol especially, to enter into intergovernmental agreements to assist border counties in the maintenance of county roads of which they are the primary users.

We have recently amended our By-Laws to increase the size of the Executive Committee, the net effect of which is to increase Texas representation on the Executive Committee - but only if you participate.

Our annual Border Conference is being held next week in Sunland Park, New Mexico (adjacent to El Paso). This is your opportunity to advance your interest in concert with colleagues from throughout the border. Our members from California, Arizona and New Mexico are united in their support and they need yours. Please join us if you can.

If you are already a participating member, please renew your membership as soon as possible. If you have never joined or participated, please give this your careful consideration and lend your voice and support to your fellow border counties.

Thank you for your attention and your support.

Sincerely,

David Austin

Enclosure

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OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ON: 11/14/13 BY: Laura T.

**TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR
AFFIDAVIT FOR PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES
TO ASSOCIATIONS OTHER THAN THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO**

I, Ramon Garcia, do hereby state that membership in the The US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition, and dues to be paid to the association, serve to accomplish one or more of the following County purposes:

- To obtain statutorily required continuing professional education.
- To obtain continuing education necessary to maintain a license or certification.
- To access the association or organization's programs, services, and activities in order to strengthen professional skills and keep up-to-date on developments related to the Department's primary business activities:
 - Publications
 - Periodicals
 - Training
 - Annual Conference
 - Award Programs
 - Representation
 - Technical Inquiry Services

FOR STATEWIDE ASSOCIATIONS ONLY

I further state that _____ is a statewide association with a minimum membership of at least 25 percent of eligible political subdivisions.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
TITLE: County Judge

Before me Monica Badillo, a Notary Public, appeared Ramon Garcia, and on his/her oath depose and stated that the facts as set forth in the above affidavit to be true and correct in every respect.

(S E A L)

NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF TEXAS

AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN AFFIDAVIT: LGC § 113.064(b)
AUTHORITY TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES: GC § 305.026

COUNTY AUDITOR'S FORM: RE-CA-041B
REVISED: 12-2012