

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF ROBERT AND JANET VACKAR
2016 BORDER TEXANS OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Border Texan of the Year award has achieved statewide stature, due, in large part, to a tradition of recognizing truly deserving individuals who have had a major impact on our border region; and

WHEREAS, for the first time in Border Texan of the Year history, this year there are two deserving individuals who will be honored during a dinner reception on Friday, March 4 at the McAllen Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Border Texans of the Year are Robert and Janet Vackar, owners of the Bert Ogden Auto Group. The Vackars were selected because of their more than 30 year commitment to efforts that have helped make the Rio Grande Valley and South Texas a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, they join the ranks of past recipients Gov. George W. Bush, U.S. Representative E. Kika De La Garza, Charles C. Butt, Gov. Ann Richards, U.S. Senator Phil Gramm, U.S. District Judge Ricardo Hinojosa and others dating back to 1989 when the Hidalgo Chamber of Commerce first paid tribute to an individual whose contributions to the border were motivated by a deep commitment to community; and

WHEREAS, Janet and Robert Vackar employ nearly 1,000 people in their 22 auto dealerships in four Rio Grande Valley cities; but more than that, they both have been involved in various charitable and civic organizations and events; and

WHEREAS, Janet is a sustaining member of McAllen's Jr. League, serves on the board of the Vannie Cook Cancer Center, and was recently named Business Woman of the Year by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She and Robert both support the Easter Seals and were named Easter Seals Humanitarians of the Year in 1997. The Vackars have supported various community organizations and foundations, including Palm Valley Animal shelter, the Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Cancer Center and veterans' groups. Most recently, the Vackars donated a \$2 million endowment to the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, in support of scholarships for qualifying undergraduate and graduate students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby honors Robert and Janet Vackar for their contributions to the Rio Grande Valley and South Texas region and congratulates them on their well-deserved title of Border Texans of the Year.

Approved this 23rd day of February 2016.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

A.C. CUELLAR, JR.
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk