



**U. S. Department of Justice**  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Houston Division  
1433 West Loop South, Suite 600  
Houston, Texas 77027

[www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)

July 31, 2017

J.E. "Eddie" Guerra  
Sheriff  
Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office  
711 El Cibolo Road  
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Dear Sheriff Guerra:

Thank you for your continued support of the Drug Enforcement Administration. Your participation in the State and Local Task Force Program allows us to jointly and effectively serve the McAllen community as a whole.

Enclosed for your review and signature is the Task Force Agreement for Fiscal Year 2018, as well as a self-addressed envelope for your convenience. Once all signatures are obtained, a courtesy copy will be sent to your office for your records.

Please contact me at 713-693-3009 or Assistant Special Agent in Charge Stephen M. Jenkins at 956-992-8405 with questions regarding any Task Force matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Whipple".

Steven S. Whipple, Acting  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

## **COOPERATIVE STATE AND LOCAL TASK FORCE AGREEMENT**

This agreement is made this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2017, between the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (hereinafter "DEA"), and the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (hereinafter "HCSO"). The DEA is authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement concerning the use and abuse of controlled substances under the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 873.

Whereas there is evidence that trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs exists in the McAllen, Texas, area and that such illegal activity has a substantial and detrimental effect on the health and general welfare of the people of, the parties hereto agree to the following:

1. The McAllen OCDETF Strike Force will perform the activities and duties described below:
  - a. disrupt the illicit drug traffic in the area by immobilizing targeted violators and trafficking organizations;
  - b. gather and report intelligence data relating to trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs; and
  - c. conduct undercover operations where appropriate and engage in other traditional methods of investigation in order that the Task Force's activities will result in effective prosecution before the courts of the United States and the State of Texas.
2. To accomplish the objectives of the McAllen OCDETF Strike Force, the HCSO agrees to detail one (1) experienced officer(s) to the McAllen OCDETF Strike Force for a period of not less than two years. During this period of assignment, the HCSO officer(s) will be under the direct supervision and control of DEA supervisory personnel assigned to the Task Force.
3. The HCSO officer(s) assigned to the Task Force shall adhere to DEA policies and procedures. Failure to adhere to DEA policies and procedures shall be grounds for dismissal from the Task Force.
4. The HCSO officer(s) assigned to the Task Force shall be deputized as Task Force Officer(s) of DEA pursuant to 21 U.S.C. Section 878.
5. To accomplish the objectives of the McAllen OCDETF Strike Force, DEA will assign 29 Special Agents to the Task Force. DEA will also, subject to the availability of annually appropriated funds or any continuing resolution thereof, provide necessary funds and equipment to support the activities of the DEA Special Agents and officer(s) assigned to the Task Force. This support will include: office space, office supplies, travel funds, funds for the purchase of evidence and information, investigative equipment, training, and other support items.
6. The HCSO shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and all

requirements imposed by or pursuant to the regulations of the United States Department of Justice implementing those laws, 28 C.F.R. Part 42, Subparts C, F, G, H and I.

7. The term of this agreement shall be effective from the date in paragraph number one until September 30, 2018. This agreement may be terminated by either party on 30 days advance written notice. Billing for all outstanding obligations must be received by DEA within 90 days of the date of termination of this agreement. DEA will be responsible only for obligations incurred by HCSO during the term of this agreement.

For the Drug Enforcement Administration:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven S. Whipple, Acting  
Special Agent in Charge

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

For the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.E. "Eddie" Guerra  
Sheriff

Date:\_\_\_\_\_