

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 25, 2017  
NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS**

**WHEREAS**, the National Parents Of Murdered Children (POMC) established September 25th as a National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims as a result of unanimously passed resolutions by the U.S. Senate on October 16, 2007 and the U.S. House of Representatives on May 14, 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, POMC believes that honoring the memory of victims who have been killed by violence and acknowledging the resulting long-term trauma for families, communities, and the nation is an important way of promoting public awareness and remembering our loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, POMC Chapters and other organizations such as the Rio Grande Valley-Families and Friends Of Murdered Children will be holding an event to commemorate the Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims on Monday, September 25; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, there were an estimated 15,696 homicides nationwide, which equals to one murder every 33.5 minutes in the United States. That national figure includes 42 homicides in the Rio Grande Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the murder of a loved one robs the victim's family of a mother, father, sister, brother, son, daughter, husband, wife, partner, grandparent, aunt, uncle, extended family member, friend, neighbor or colleague, and creates an overwhelming challenge to fill the void their absence creates; and

**WHEREAS**, survivors of homicide victims want their murdered children to be valued, regardless of the circumstances surrounding their deaths, and their surviving children to grow up in a safe environment, recognized for their human worth rather than as statistics waiting to happen. Through leadership, grief support and advocacy, survivors are reducing violence and promoting prevention and policy change on a local, state and national level.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim September 25, 2017 as National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims in Hidalgo County and supports the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Candlelight Vigil to be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Boggus Ford Events Center in Pharr.**

**Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017.**

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**RAMON GARCIA**  
County Judge

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**DAVID L. FUENTES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

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**EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

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**JOE M. FLORES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

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**JOSEPH PALACIOS**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

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**Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**  
County Clerk