

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING WORLD DAY
AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

WHEREAS, World Day against Trafficking in Persons, provides an opportunity for Hidalgo County to renew our commitment in combating human trafficking in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking tears at our social fabric, fuels violence and organized crime, and debases our common humanity; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a global tragedy, combating it requires international, national, state and local action. There are an estimated 40.3 million victims of human trafficking worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the *Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office* is working with national, state, regional, and local stakeholders to fight against human trafficking and to provide assistance to victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the *Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office* is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for justice for all victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we must join together as a community in Hidalgo County to provide that safe haven by protecting victims and prosecuting traffickers. With improved victim identification, medical and social services, training for first responders, and increased public awareness, the men, women, and children who have suffered this scourge can overcome the bonds of modern slavery, receive protection and justice, and successfully reclaim their rightful independence; and

WHEREAS, the *Rio Grande Valley Anti Human Trafficking Taskforce* calls on every single person in our community to report human trafficking and join prevention efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County of Hidalgo County Commissioners Court proclaims July 30th 2019 as World Day against Trafficking in Persons in Hidalgo County.

Approved this 30th day of July 2019.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct.3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk