

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 26TH AS
NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**

WHEREAS, National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is a day for every American, in every community across the country, to do his or her part to fight the opioid crisis by disposing of unwanted prescription medications from their medicine cabinets; and

WHEREAS, the Drug Enforcement Administration launched its prescription drug take back program when both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration declared this a public safety and health hazard issue; and

WHEREAS, the nation is facing one of the worst drug crises in history, with one American dying of a drug overdose every nine minutes; and

WHEREAS, rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs; and

WHEREAS, helping people to dispose of potentially harmful prescription drugs is just one way our local law enforcement agencies are working to reduce the addiction and overdose deaths plaguing this country due to opioid medications; and

WHEREAS, Edinburg PD, Edinburg CISD PD, McAllen ISD PD, Pharr PD, San Juan PD, Palmview PD, Hidalgo County Constable Pct. 4, Mission PD, Weslaco PD, Donna PD, Peñitas Public Library, Alton PD, and La Joya PD each have a disposal box for public use. In the last four years, the boxes have collected over 9,636.98 lbs of unused prescription medication; and

WHEREAS, the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office and the UNIDAD Coalition of Behavioral Health Solutions encourages the citizens of Hidalgo County to observe National Prescription Take Back Day and properly dispose of their unused prescription drugs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim October 26, 2019 as National Prescription Drug Take Back Day and encourages Hidalgo County residents to attend scheduled awareness and educational events.

Approved this 22nd day of October 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