



# COUNTY OF HIDALGO

## County Judge's Office

### Hidalgo County Judge's Office

### Justification Regarding Creation of One Temporary Position

July 24, 2020

#### I. Background

With the passage and enactment of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) also known as the Third COVID-19 Supplemental Relief Bill on March 31, funds were made available to assist local governments in responding to the ongoing public health emergency.

#### II. County Judge/Emergency Management Director

- The Hidalgo County Judge serves as the Emergency Management Director for Hidalgo County
- Communication is critical to efficient and effective emergency management operations.
- The fluid nature of COVID-19 related operations has created a need for centralized communication strategy between municipalities, school districts, state and federal partners as well as the general public.

#### III. Request

- The Hidalgo County Judge as the Emergency Management Director hereby request approval of the following position through December 31, 2020.
  - i. COVID Coordinator

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#### AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

1. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for the Hidalgo County Judge's Office, in order to continue Hidalgo County's response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.
2. Approval of Interdepartmental transfer.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez as the Emergency Management Director recommends approval of the position to continue Hidalgo County's response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Relief Grant Fund available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.