

**Shawn Snider**  
Chairman

**Robert R. Alvarez**  
Secretary



**Javier Garcia**  
Vice-Chairman

March 19, 2021

Hidalgo Co. Judge Richard Cortez  
Commissioner David L. Fuentes, PCT. 1  
Commissioner Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu, PCT. 2  
Commissioner Everardo Villarreal, PCT. 3  
Commissioner Ellie Torres, PCT. 4

Dear County Judge and Commissioners,

Please accept this letter as complete support from the Hidalgo County Fire Chief's Association of consideration enacting a "Burn Ban" in Hidalgo County. Due to the extremely dry conditions and vegetation that have suffered due to the winter freeze event, fire departments across Hidalgo County have experienced a significant number of extreme wildland, brush, grass and debris fires that have explosive growth, damaging properties and threatening citizens lives. We anticipate the drought and extreme wildfire conditions will continue into the summer with minimal relief.

The Hidalgo County Fire Chief's Association is confident that by passing the "Burn Ban", the Hidalgo County Fire Marshal's Office and the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department will be able to educate citizens on responsible ways of burning refuse at their homes and provide an enforcement tool for citizens that burn refuse and vegetation without regard for public safety.

We appreciate your consideration of the "Burn Ban" and are available for any questions that you may have related to this emergency condition.

Respectfully,

Shawn Snider, Chairman  
Hidalgo County Fire Chief's Association