

*Proclamation declaring April 2023
National Sexual Assault Awareness Month*

Whereas April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time to draw attention to the prevalence of sexual assault and educate individuals and communities about how to prevent it; and

Whereas the theme of Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2023 is “Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity.” This April's campaign calls on all individuals, communities, organizations, and institutions to change ourselves and the systems surrounding us to build racial equity and respect; and

Whereas sexual harassment, assault and abuse can happen anywhere, including in online spaces. Now more than ever, screens and technology connect us with others but for too long, harassment, cyberbullying, and sexual abuse have been seen as unavoidable behaviors online; and

Whereas sexual harassment, abuse and assault are widespread problems. In the United States one in five women and one in 67 men have been raped at some time in their lives and one in four girls and one in twenty boys is sexually abused by the age of 17; and

Whereas each of us has the power to change that. Together we can make a difference to build inclusive, safe, and respectful communities free from sexual violence; and

Whereas the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney’s Office join advocates and communities across the country in proclaiming that we can build safe online spaces together and reduce sexual violence in our community.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby declare April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month and encourages Hidalgo County residents to attend scheduled awareness and educational events.

Approved this 4th day of April, 2023.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO “EVER” VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk