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File No. 8900

October 14, 2025

Mr. David L. Fuentes
Hidalgo County Commissioner - Precinct 1
1902 Joe Stephens, Ste. 101
Weslaco, TX 78596

Re: Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No.1 (the District)
Notice of Vacancy and Recommendation to Fill Vacancy on Board of Commissioners

Dear Commissioner Fuentes:

As you are aware, I have the pleasure to serve as the attorney for the District. In such capacity, I have been requested by the Board of Commissioners to advise you that one (1) vacancy now exists on the Board of Commissioners for the District due to the recent death of Gerardo Latigo who held Place 1 on the Board of Commissioners. The Board consists of five (5) commissioners serving two (2) year terms. The vacancy carries a term of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2027. There is a necessity for the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court to take action to fill the remaining term for Place 1.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 775.034 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, since all property within the District is located in Hidalgo County, the appointment of commissioners for the District is the duty and responsibility of the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court. In order to serve, a person must be (1) at least 18 years of age, and (2) a resident citizen of the state and either (A) a qualified voter within areas served by the District; or (B) the owner of land subject to taxation in the District. Commissioners for the District are appointed for a two (2) year term and serve until a successor has been appointed and qualified. Pursuant to Section 775.034(e) of the Texas Health and Safety Code, the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court also has the duty of filing the vacancy resulting from the death of Commissioner Latigo.

While it is the duty of the entire Hidalgo County Commissioners Court to appoint commissioners for the District, it is the District's understanding that, as a matter of courtesy, the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court has deferred to the County Commissioner whose Precinct covers the District in making such appointments. In this case, since the District lies wholly within the boundaries of Precinct 1, this duty and responsibility is now yours.

Even though the Board of Commissioners of the District realizes that the choice of who to appoint as the new commissioner is up to you and the other members of the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court, the District's Board of Commissioners have adopted a resolution recommending Mr. Jose O. Leal, Jr., 6114 N FM 88, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas, as a person qualified, willing and able to serve as commissioner pursuant to the requirements of Section 775.034(a) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Mr. Leal can be reached by telephone at 956-457-7772 if you wish to discuss this matter with him.

In any event, it will be appreciated if you would keep my office advised of when such appointment will be considered by the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court, the result of such consideration and the name

and address of the person appointed to fill such vacancy if not Mr. Leal. Once the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court makes such appointment, the new commissioner will be required to sign and file the necessary *Statement of Appointed Officer* and take the required oath before participating as a commissioner for the District. This matter will be handled by my office in conjunction with the immediately following meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

If you have any questions regarding this request or the operations of the District, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



RICHARD S. TALBERT

RST/ljc

pc: Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No.1
P. O. Box 1010
Weslaco, TX 78599-1010

Mr. Jose O. Leal, Jr.
6114 N FM 88
Weslaco, TX 78599