

RESOLUTION HONORING CITY OF MCALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, There are currently an estimated 800 full-time and volunteer firefighters working in Hidalgo County. These brave individuals are committed to helping others in potentially dangerous situations, even while placing their own lives at risk; and

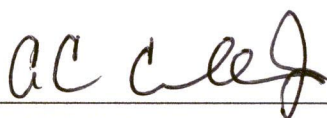
WHEREAS, Hidalgo County firefighters take a “one-stop, all hazards approach” to emergency situations. They diligently and cohesively work together as a team, collaborating with other fire departments as they support each other in the service to our community; and


WHEREAS, the following members of the McAllen Fire Department: Mark Zamora; Justin Hill; Thomas Brooks; Jerry Peña; Lt. Philip Winger; Lt. Paulo Herrera, as “Sparky” the mascot; and Chief Rafael Balderas; were featured on *Good Morning America's 5-Alarm Firefighters Challenge* – in a friendly competition with firefighters from Tacoma, Washington and Gulf Shores, Florida. They won three out four challenges that included a friendly dance off, obstacle course, best firehouse recipe, and trivia for a chance to win a \$10,000 prize towards a charity of their choice; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County recognizes the City of McAllen, the McAllen Fire Department and the firefighters who won first place in *Good Morning America's 5-Alarm Firefighters Challenge*, and the \$10,000 grand prize, which is designated for “Texas Line of Duty Death Task Force,” an organization that helps the families of fallen heroes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby commends the members of the McAllen Fire Department for their outstanding representation during the competition, which resulted in garnering positive national attention for the City of McAllen, Hidalgo County, the Rio Grande Valley and the State of Texas.

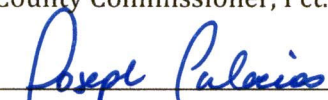
Dated this 22nd day of July, 2014.


A.C. CUELLAR, JR.
County Commissioner, Pct. 1


JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3


RAMON GARCIA
County Judge


HECTOR “TITO” PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 2


JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4


Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk