

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

WHEREAS, National Donate Life Month was instituted by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003. Celebrated in April each year, National Donate Life Month encourages people to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and celebrates those who have saved lives through the gift of donation; and

WHEREAS, there are over 123,000 people on the national transplant waiting list, including 11,676 Texans. Of the number of Texans, 44.4 percent are Hispanic and 23.4 percent are African American; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. Organ, eye and tissue transplants offer patients a new chance at healthy, productive and normal lives; and

WHEREAS, a person's social and financial status does not play a part in the decision to receive an organ. What counts for people on the transplant waiting list is the severity of their illness, body size, tissue type, blood type, and other important medical information; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County encourages residents to register and become organ and tissue donors and supports outreach and education efforts to recruit even more donors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby declares April as National Donate Life Month and calls upon health care professionals, volunteers, educators, government agencies, faith-based and community groups, and private organizations to join forces to boost the number of organ, tissue, blood and stem cell donors throughout the State of Texas and Hidalgo County.

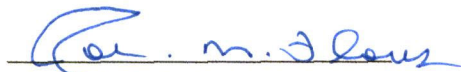
Dated this 28th day of April, 2014.



RAMON GARCIA
County Judge



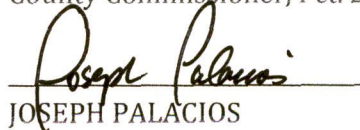
A.C. CUELLAR, JR.
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk