

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2018
AS VALLEY VOTER AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution established the United States as a representative democracy that relies on civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, a fundamental element of effective democracy is the principle that all eligible citizens should participate in fair and open elections; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of each individual to exercise the right that so many struggled to obtain and protect. It is important for voters to always engage themselves in the electoral process and make an ardent effort to register and get out and vote.

WHEREAS, in order to reach those who have not fully embraced their rights and responsibilities as citizens, the community must expand opportunities for voter education and nonpartisan voter registration. Vital contributions in this regard can be made by grassroots organizations, by the media, by educational, cultural, and religious institutions and by other entities in both the public and private sector; and

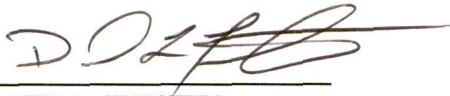
WHEREAS, currently, Hidalgo County has 358,213 registered voters; an increase of 10 percent from the total number of registered voters in 2014. This increase proves that there is a continuing need to work together as a community to increase participation in the electoral process in Hidalgo County and the Rio Grande Valley.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims September 2018 as Valley Voter Awareness Month in Hidalgo County and encourages all citizens to exercise their right to vote and to promote participation in the electoral process to their friends, families and neighbors in local, state and national elections.

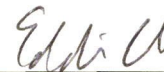
Dated this 18th day of September 2018.



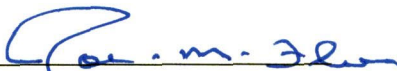
RAMON GARCIA
County Judge



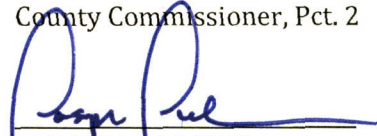
DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk