



CARLOS H. CASCOS, CPA
COUNTY JUDGE

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Press Release

December 18, 2008

CASCOS PROMOTES REGIONAL APPROACH WITH AREA ENTITIES

Judge Carlos H. Cascos has sent a letter to all governmental entities within Cameron County expressing his strong interest and support to work together with all of the respective local agencies on issues in Austin and D.C. In anticipation of the start of the upcoming 81st legislative session in Austin he shared the County's current legislative agenda with all the County's governmental agencies.

In his letter he wrote "we must build coalitions amongst all governmental agencies in Cameron County and South Texas, including cities, school districts, ports and others as we promote legislative agendas to our State and Federal leaders in Austin and Washington, D.C. Since taking office almost two years ago I have made it a point to address many of the challenges we face as a region, such as veterans issues, flood control, and infrastructure."

Cascos asked area agencies to share goals and legislative agendas so that Cameron County can also help address these concerns at the state and federal level. "During the recent hurricane events that we have gone through I have once again come to realize that it takes the cooperation of all to overcome the direct and indirect obstacles during these critical times", Cascos said. "In addition to hurricane preparedness, there are many issues such as the upgrade of US 77 to Interstate standards that we must continue to focus on and promote collectively." he went on to state in the letter.

The County continues to finalize its legislative agenda but knows there will be other issues that come up throughout the session. The County's agenda is a working document that will change as the session moves along.

Judge Cascos went on to add, "there is power in numbers and Cameron County stands ready to support the initiatives of all the entities and our community."

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For press information contact Bernardina Garcia, Cameron County Judge's Office, by phone: 956-544-0830, or by email: GarciaB@co.cameron.tx.us.

December 17, 2008

«Company_Name»
«Address»
«City_State» «Zip_Code»

Dear «Title»:

As the 81st Legislature prepares to convene once again in Austin this January, I want to take this opportunity to share our county agenda with you and your colleagues so that you are aware of the legislative issues we will be working on this coming session.

As your County Judge I have made it a point to address many of the challenges we face as a region, such as Veterans issues, flood control, infrastructure, etc. Our area has many needs and for our voices to be heard and to be successful, we must build coalitions amongst all governmental entities in Cameron County and South Texas, including Cities, School Districts, Ports and others as we promote legislative agendas to our State and Federal leaders in Austin and Washington, D.C.

We have learned many lessons over the course of these last couple of years....such as dealing with the direct and indirect effects of hurricanes and the obstacles we faced during and after the storms passed such as flooding, drainage, rescue equipment, water pumps, generators at evacuation shelters and emergency operations centers. We desperately need to have access to adequate transportation and a reliable evacuation corridor during this crucial time and we must make sure that government services are quickly restored and operating as quickly as possible, especially in our smaller rural communities. After experiencing the impact that a hurricane had in our area, I came to realize how fragile our community is.

In addition to issues related to hurricane preparedness, we will continue to focus on Veterans healthcare, infrastructure improvements, transportation and the upgrade of US 77, just to name a few.

I invite you to share your goals and if applicable, your legislative agenda for this session with us so that if you desire, we can help you address your concerns at the State and/or Federal level, or even include your legislative considerations and requests as part of our legislative agenda. As we have all come to learn, there is power in numbers and we stand ready to support the initiatives of your entity and our community.

Sincerest regards,

Carlos H. Cascos, CPA
County Judge

Attachment