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**Press Release**

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**COUNTY JUDGE WORKS TO BRING PUBLIC ENTITIES TOGETHER**

Cameron County Judge Carlos H. Cascos today announced an important forum he and other local leaders are organizing with other public officials within the City of Brownsville. The forum will take place at the Brownsville Events Center on Thursday January 15th and the purpose is to “come together towards a common purpose of supporting each others goals and objectives at the state and federal level as well as on other endeavors that come up throughout the year”. “We have many needs in our area and we need to speak with one voice. When traveling to Washington or Austin we must be able to convey the goals of not only Cameron County but of all our communities at every opportunity and be in a position to speak with some sense of understanding and knowledge. It is important for all of us to continue promoting this type of strategy and frame of mind when speaking to our legislative representatives”.

Upon taking office just over two years ago Judge Cascos organized a similar forum with the Brownsville Navigation District, the City of Brownsville and the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority to discuss transportation and infrastructure objectives. While those issues are extremely important to our area Cascos now is also inviting the area educational institutions such as the Brownsville Independent School District and the University of Texas at Brownsville to discuss their priorities. In addition Judge Cascos has asked the Brownsville Public Utilities Board to share their short term, mid-term and long term plans for the area. “In order to improve the quality of life for future generations the educational component needs must have a seat at the table. It is important to have trained and educated individuals to help sustain the distinctive sectors important to our economy such as industrial, manufacturing, health, ecotourism, and educational professions”.

“All of our respective entities are equally important and now more than ever we need to speak with one voice”, Cascos added. “I applaud those involved in making this forum a possibility and look forward to sharing our goals and objectives for Brownsville, Cameron County and the South Texas region”.

In addition to this forum, Cascos will also be organizing in the near future a similar forum in Northern Cameron County with leaders from the Harlingen-San Benito area as well as other smaller cities in the near future.

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