



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

A. C. Cuellar, Jr.
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, September 10, 2015

D.A. credits No Refusal Weekend success to collaboration and awareness

EDINBURG – Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez Jr. thanked the 26 law enforcement agencies, including Sheriff J.E. "Eddie" Guerra, all four county constables, the Department of Public Safety and police departments in Alamo, Alton, Donna, Edcouch, Edinburg, Elsa, Hidalgo, La Joya, La Villa, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, Pharr, Progresso, San Juan, Sullivan City, and Weslaco for the Labor Day weekend collaborate efforts to keep our communities safe by cracking down on drunk drivers.

"There were zero fatalities over double the DWI arrests from last year's weekend. Our motivation and purpose for the No Refusal weekend was to save lives and create public awareness to keep people who drink from driving.

"Thanks to the collaboration of all our law enforcement agencies, magistrates and Hidalgo County Health and Human Services department – there were 117 arrests that will be backed up by breath tests and/or blood specimens, which are crucial in prosecuting DWI cases. Our local news media and community supporters deserve thanks as well for helping to create the awareness that, while harder to quantify, may have kept others from drinking and driving.

"We want to get people who drink off the roads. Keeping our communities safe is our top priority and collaborative efforts such as this makes us all more effective in achieving that goal."

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Note to Editors/News Directors/Reporters: A breakdown of the arrests and blood draw warrants is attached.

Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the 800,000 residents of our county as well as a variety of services to residents who live outside city limits. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility.