



GRIT & *Grace*

89TH ANNUAL SOUTH TEXAS
COUNTY JUDGES & COMMISSIONERS
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

June 26-29, 2023

**JW Marriott Hill Country Resort & Spa
San Antonio, TX**

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Thirteen (13) continuing education hours have been approved for individuals participating in this conference. An additional four (4) continuing education hours are approved for those who attend the Early Bird Session. County Judges may receive up to four (4) hours of judicial credit.

EDUCATIONAL SPONSORS



V.G. YOUNG INSTITUTE OF
COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Judicial education
coordinated by:



Commissioners
Court
ADVANCED
CURRICULUM

County Judges and
Commissioners may receive up to
ten (10) hours of Commissioners
Court Advanced Curriculum
during the conference.

CONFERENCE EVALUATION

At the close of the conference, please remember to complete and submit your conference evaluation. These evaluations help in planning future conferences. Your input is appreciated!

2024 CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 90th Annual South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association Conference to be held June 24-27, 2024, in South Padre Island, Texas.

SPOUSE'S PROGRAM

Welcome! Please make sure you are registered at the registration desk to reserve your spot and receive program information.

On Tuesday, June 27, participants will attend the onsite spouse event, Summer in a Jar: Preserving the Season's Best! Find out more information about this event on page 14.

Sponsored by Linebarger Attorneys at Law

**Thank you to CORE Construction of Texas
for sponsoring the
Audio Visual for this event!**

2023 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Site Selection Committee

CHAIR

Hon. David Fuentes, Commissioner, Hidalgo Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Mark Gillespie, Commissioner, Atascosa Co.

Hon. Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe, Commissioner, Hays Co.

Hon. Rudy Madrid, Judge, Kleberg Co.

Resolutions Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Joe A. Gonzalez (JAG), Commissioner, Nueces Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Jen Crownover, Commissioner, Comal Co.

Hon. David Garza, Commissioner, Cameron Co.

Hon. Margie Gonzalez, Commissioner, Jim Wells Co.

Hon. Ben Zeller, Judge, Victoria Co.

Nominations Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Sammy Farias, Commissioner, Bee Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Juan Guerra, Judge, Jim Hogg Co.

Hon. Gary Martin, Commissioner, Wilson Co.

Hon. Martha Ponce, Judge, Dimmit Co.

Hon. Jimmy Sylvia, Judge, Chambers Co.

Hon. Rosaura P. "Wawi" Tijerina, Commissioner, Webb Co.

Hon. Ellie Torres, Commissioner, Hidalgo Co.

Scholarship Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Vern Lyssy, Commissioner, Calhoun Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Daryl Fowler, Judge, DeWitt Co.

Hon. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Victoria Co.

Hon. Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Aransas Co.

Hon. Greg Seidenberger, Commissioner, Guadalupe Co.

AGENDA AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday, June 26

- 9:00 - 10 a.m.** **Early Bird Registration Open**
Exhibit Hall C
- 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.** **Early Bird - County Budgeting**
Moderator: Dr. Peter McGill
- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.** **Calendars: Budget, Property Tax,
& Grievances**
Speaker: Hon. Kim Halfmann,
County Relations Officer, Texas
Association of Counties
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.** **Calculating Tax Rates and What
They Mean**
Speaker: Ms. Connie Rose, Director of
Education, McCreary, Veselka, Bragg
& Allen, PC
- 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch (Provided)**
- 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.** **Advertisements & Public Notices**
Speaker: Hon. Alan Bristol, County
Relations Officer, Texas Association
of Counties
- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.** **Procedures to Adopt the Budget
& Tax Rate**
Speaker: Mr. Nathan Craddock, Auditor,
Tom Green County
- 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.** **Registration Opens**
Exhibit Hall C Foyer
- 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.** **Exhibits Open**
Exhibit Hall A&B
- 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.** **Committee Meetings**
- Site Selection Committee**
Grand Ballroom D
- Resolutions Committee**
Grand Ballroom F
- Nominations Committee**
Grand Ballroom E
- Scholarship Committee**
Grand Ballroom C
**Scholarships sponsored by
S2 Engineering**
- 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.** **President's Welcome Reception**
Exhibit Hall A&B
**Sponsored by Linebarger Attorneys
at Law**

Tuesday, June 27

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration Opens

Lobby

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open

Exhibit Hall A&B

Opening General Session

Exhibit Hall C

8:00 a.m.

Call to Order and Announcements

Hon. Jill Sklar, President, South Texas
County Judges and Commissioners
Association

Invocation

Hon. Rebeca Clay-Flores, Commissioner,
Bexar County

Presentation of Colors

Bexar County Sheriff's Honor Guard

Pledge of Allegiance

Hon. Sammy Farias, First Vice President,
South Texas County Judges and
Commissioners Association

National Anthem

Ms. Michelle Ravitsky, Opera San Antonio

Bexar County Welcome

Hon. Peter Sakai, Judge, Bexar County

Greetings:

Hon. Harold Keeter, President, County
Judges and Commissioners Association
of Texas

Hon. Kelly Traylor, President, North and
East Texas County Judges and
Commissioners Association

Hon. Cindy Irwin, President, West Texas
County Judges and Commissioners
Association

Hon. Susan Redford, Executive Director,
Texas Association of Counties

Ms. Julie Anderson, Editor,
County Progress

Dr. Peter McGuill, Director, V.G. Young
Institute of County Government,
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Tuesday, June 27

8:20 a.m.



Keynote Address: 4.016 Leadership/ Teambuilding- Suffer from BURNOUT, Give'em the F.I.N.G.E.R.!

Speaker: Mr. Mark Yarbrough, Author and Motivational Speaker

Sponsored by NextEra

Burnout affects millions of Americans each year and has been called "the disease of our civilization." The unhappiness and detachment burnout causes can threaten your job, your relationships, and your health. But there's good news -- burnout can be healed. Former 20-year elected District Attorney, Mark Yarbrough, from Littlefield, Texas (hometown of Waylon Jennings), personally experienced burnout, learned how to successfully overcome it, and went from "Burnout" to "On Fire!" He has since become a "burnout expert" and has written and published on the subject. Mark is a very entertaining, motivating, and inspiring speaker. He has taught thousands of people how to overcome Burnout -- from companies like Blue Bell Ice Cream and Xcel Energy, to teachers and doctors/nurses, to a variety of government workers (police officers, CPS workers, attorneys, victim's rights advocates, counselors, mental health professionals, etc.). Audience members will learn the definition of Burnout and the symptoms thereof. But more importantly, attendees will be laughing, and at the same time learning how to apply Mark's F.I.N.G.E.R. philosophy to help themselves or their co-workers avoid and/or recover from Burnout. This is a training that you won't want to miss!

9:10 a.m.



4.017 Communications Broadband Update

Speaker: Ms. Andrea Pacheco, Broadband Outreach Coordinator, Texas Broadband Development Office

This session will contain a brief overview of how and why the Texas Broadband Development Office was created. Updates about current and future broadband funding programs available in Texas and discuss opportunities for engagement with the Texas Broadband Development Office will be provided.

10:00 a.m.

Refreshment Break

Exhibit Hall A&B

Sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Professionals Associations

10:20 a.m.

Addressing Fire and EMS Needs for your County

Speaker: Mr. Clay Avery, Interim Executive Director, SAFE-D

Counties across Texas are facing difficulties resulting from their residents' need for essential emergency services, combined with

an increased pressure on available resources. Suburban and rural counties are feeling a particular strain with regards to the provision of ambulance service. This presentation will discuss Emergency Services Districts (ESDs) as a possible solution to some of those issues, with attention paid to opportunities, potential pitfalls, and alternative options.

11:10 a.m.



4.025 Tax Abatements and Economic Developments

Speaker: Mr. Charles Kimbrough, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

This presentation discusses tax abatement and other economic development agreements for Texas counties pursuant to the relevant authority, including Chapter 381 of the Texas Local Government Code and Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code.

12:00 noon

Past Presidents' Luncheon - By Invitation Only

Grand Ballroom B

Sponsored by Allison Bass & Magee, LLP

Tuesday Afternoon, June 27

Special Session for County Judges

Begonia & Bottlebrush

Moderator: Hon. Jill Sklar

1:00 p.m.

DWI Sentencing & Pre-Trial Practices

Speaker: Hon. Alan Bristol, County Relations Officer, Texas Association of Counties

This presentation will provide an overview of conditions of bond and sentencing guidelines that will help keep defendants from becoming repeat offenders.

2:00 p.m.

Magistrate's Duty to Defendants with Mental Illness

Speaker: Ms. Rebecca Glisan, Staff Attorney, Texas Justice Court Training Center

This presentation will discuss the obligations of the magistrate to provide mental health resources at the time of arrest.

3:00 p.m.

Refreshment Break

Sponsored by Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP and P2 Emulsions

3:15 p.m.

DWI Dockets

Speaker: Hon. Ashley Cain Land, Attorney, Chambers Co.

This presentation will discuss how to manage the DWI docket in an efficient and effective manner.

4:15 p.m.

Civil Litigation in the County Court

Speaker: Hon. Greg Holly, Judge, Ward Co.

This session will examine the filing of civil cases including jurisdictional limits and service, the filing of discovery motions and dispositive motions and final orders.

5:15 p.m.

Adjourn

Special Session for County Commissioners Courts
Moderator: Hon. David Fuentes
Exhibit Hall C

1:15 p.m.

Call to Order and Announcements

1:20 p.m.

Illegal Dumping on County Roads

Speakers: Hon. Mark Gillespie, Commissioner, Atascosa Co., & Mr. Eric Magee, Partner, Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP

Illegal dumping on county roads is a growing issue throughout the state and of particular concern in South Texas. This panel will discuss the issues as well as potential solutions to address illegal dumping on county roads.

2:10 p.m.

TEEX - Who We Are and What We Do

Speakers: Mr. Chris Angerer, Executive Associate Division Director, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Mr. David Coatney, Director, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Mr. Bill Long, Program Director, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, & Ms. Lisa Mutchler, Division Director, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

This session will provide an overview of the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) training and technical assistance capabilities for communities and counties.

3:00 p.m.

Refreshment Break

Exhibit Hall A&B

Sponsored by Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP and P2 Emulsions

3:20 p.m.



3.004 Regulations and Legal Issues: On Site Sewage Facilities

Speaker: Mr. Ryan Gerlich, Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Over 2.2 million homes and businesses in Texas rely on on-site sewage facilities (aka septic systems). Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides education for homeowners and professionals to ensure water quality and public health protection. The presentation will address many of the frequently asked questions associated with operating these systems and discuss programs to address the impacts of failing septic systems.

4:10 p.m.



3.016 County Roads: Opening, Closing, and Abandoning County Roads

Speaker: Mr. Bob Bass, Partner, Allison Bass & Magee, LLP

A discussion on the topics most often raised by Commissioners: obstructions, closing, altering, or opening county roads. What are the key points of a county road and how a road becomes a "county road," or how does it cease to be a county road.

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.

Host Court Night

Sponsored by Linebarger Attorneys at Law

Wednesday, June 28

7:00 a.m.

Inspirational Breakfast

Grand Oaks A-F

Speaker: Gary Janak, Auxiliary Bishop, San Antonio Archdiocese

Sponsored by Linebarger Attorneys at Law

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration Opens

Exhibit Hall C Foyer

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open

Exhibit Hall A&B

9:00 a.m.

Business Meeting

Exhibit Hall C

Committee meeting updates, awarding of scholarships, and the installation of new officers.

9:40 a.m.

Refreshment Break

Exhibit Hall A&B

Sponsored by GrantWorks and McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, PC

CCAC Phase II

Grand Ballroom C-D

Moderator: Hon. Sammy Farias

10:10 a.m.



2.007 County Sheriff

Speaker: Hon. Ray Scifres, Sheriff, Hockley Co.

County government consists of numerous elected officials with a host of responsibilities. This session is a general overview of the duties and responsibilities of the office of Sheriff and will cover how Texas sheriffs work with other stakeholders in the system to ensure efficient and effective operations.

11:10 a.m.



2.017 County Court at Law Judge

Speaker: Hon. Jaime E. Carrillo, County Court at Law Judge, Kleberg Co.

A discussion of the qualifications and duties of the County Court at Law, along with how a County Court can help with jail overcrowding.

OR

CCAC Phase III

Exhibit Hall C

Moderator: Hon. David Fuentes

10:10 a.m.



3.012 Interlocal Agreements: Creating Effective Partnerships

Speaker: Mr. Charles Kimbrough, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

This presentation will discuss requirements for the drafting and execution by a Texas county of an interlocal governmental agreement pursuant to the relevant authority, including Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code.

11:10 a.m.



4.023 Grant Seeking: General Land Office

Speakers: Ms. Sasha King, Management Analyst, Texas General Land Office, & Ms. Esmeralda Sanchez, Director, Texas General Land Office

This session will offer an overview of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Grants administered by the Texas General Land Office.

Noon

Lunch



Leisure Activities

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Taco/Nacho Bar and Refreshments

Event Lawn 2

Sponsored by **Linebarger Attorneys at Law**

Cornhole Tournament

Sponsored by **Linebarger Attorneys at Law, Javier Hinojosa Engineering, and David Fuentes**

Thursday Morning, June 29

7:30 a.m.

Coffee and Pastries
San Antonio Terrace
**Sponsored by Bickerstaff Heath
Delgado Acosta, LLP and
Hart InterCivic**

General Session
Exhibit Hall C
Moderator: Hon. Sammy Farias

8:30 a.m.



3.019 Subdivision Regulations
Speaker: Mr. Eric Magee, Partner, Allison,
Bass & Magee, LLP

The authority of the Commissioners Court to regulate subdivisions will be reviewed and tools to aid in exercising this authority will be discussed.

9:20 a.m.



3.003 Lawmaking: Legislative Update
Speaker: Mr. Jim Allison, Senior General
Counsel, County Judges and
Commissioners Association of Texas

This session will cover the legislative studies being conducted, that affect county government, after the 88th Legislature.

10:10 a.m.



**3.013 Working with the Legislature:
Legislative Panel**

Moderator: Mr. Jim Allison, Senior General
Counsel, County Judges and
Commissioners Association of Texas & Mr.
Rick Thompson, Legislative Director,
County Judges and Commissioners
Association of Texas, and
Invited Legislators

Invited legislators will provide an update after the 88th Legislative Session from their respective positions.

11:00 a.m.

Adjourn

**See you next year
at the 90th Annual South Texas
Judges & Commissioner Conference
June 24-27, 2024
South Padre Island**



Host Court Night



Tuesday, June 27 6:00 p.m.

Tobin Center for the Performing Arts

Situated along the banks of the San Antonio River in the city's heart, the historic Municipal Auditorium, with its original facade preserved, has been transformed into a world-class venue. This theatrical icon is once again the pride of the river and a shining beacon of creativity, fine art, and downtown development.

Transportation will be provided.

Many thanks to the Bexar County
Commissioners Court and Planning Committee

**Sponsored by
Linebarger Attorneys at Law**

2022-2023
SOUTH TEXAS COUNTY JUDGES
AND COMMISSIONERS
ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Hon. Jill Sklar
Jackson County Judge

**FIRST VICE
PRESIDENT**

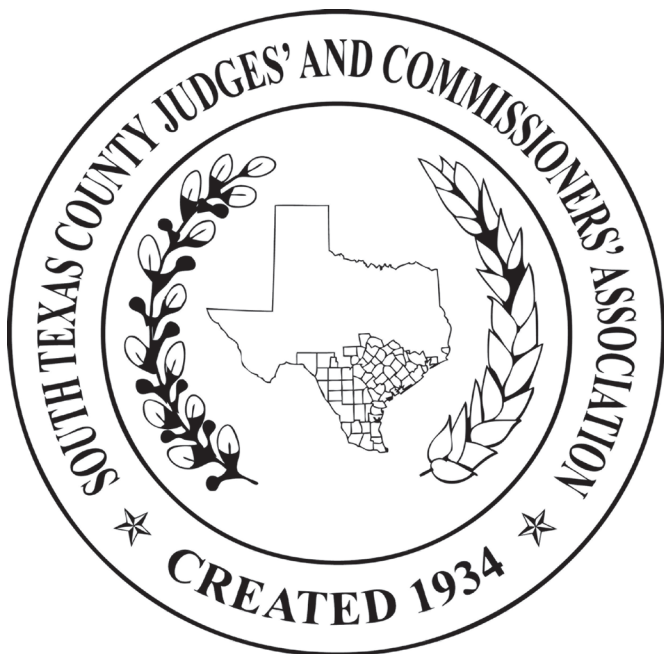
Hon. Sammy Farias
Bee County Commissioner

**SECOND VICE
PRESIDENT**

Hon. David Fuentes
Hidalgo County Commissioner

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Hon. Joe A. Gonzalez (JAG)
Nueces County Commissioner





Spouse Program

Tuesday, June 27

**Summer in a Jar:
Preserving the Season's Best!**

**9:30 am - 1:30 pm
Grand Ballroom C-F**

Join us for a hands-on experience making delicious, canned goods and gain confidence knowing you can safely and effectively preserve nature's bounty!

Brunch Provided.

Sponsored by Linebarger Attorneys at Law

EXHIBITORS

Booth	Company Name	Booth	Company Name
100	Visionality	403	Parsons Roofing
101	Auction House, LLC	404	BIS Digital, Inc.
102	Komatsu Architecture	405	Kinloch Equipment & Supply
103	ATMAX Equipment Co.	410	AG CM
104	Goldsmith Solutions	411	Transline (Centerline, Trantex, Florida Transcor)
105	Wise Choice Alternative	412	Railroad Commission of Texas
106	Texas Correctional Industries	413	Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLP
108	Tellus Equipment Solutions, LLC	414	VR Systems, Inc.
110	Resound Networks	415	The Garland Company
112	Texas Facilities Commission	416	NextEra
114	Texas On-Site Wastewater Association	500	i3 Verticals
115	K&L Supply Inc	501	Vulcan Materials
116	Cooper Equipment	502	Burns Architecture, Inc.
117	Guardian Security Solutions, LC	503	C.M. Company Auctions
200	Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects	504	ABM Industries
201	E3 Entegral Solutions	505	Cimline/Durapatcher
202	Wilson Culverts, Inc.	510	Gerloff Company, Inc.
203	White Construction Company	511	Freese and Nichols
204	SAR Data Analytics, LLC	512	Teague Nall and Perkins, Inc.
205	HDR Architecture, Inc	513	Texas County and District Retirement System
211	The Railroad Yard	514	ROMCO Equipment
213	BuyBoard	600	Half Associates, Inc.
214	ECM - a JMT Division	601	Batterson Truck Equipment
215	Doucet and Associates	602	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
216	HOK Architects	603	American National Leasing Company
217	CORE Construction of Texas	604	Gov-Pay
300	R.B. Everett & Company	605	Langford Community Management Services
301	Purple Wave Auction	607	DRC Emergency Services, LLC/SLS
302	Rock Asphalt	609	Diamond Mowers
303	Southern Tire Mart	610	Texas Political Subdivisions
304	Bobcat of Dallas	611	Tiger Corporation
305	Indigent Healthcare Solutions	612	The PlayWell Group, Inc.
310	Wheeler	613	Texas Road and Sign Supply.com
311	A-Lert Roof Systems	614	CGL Companies LLC
312	Advanced Drainage Systems	615	Enviro Tech Services, Inc
313	Purchasing Cooperative of America	616	Asphalt Zipper
314	Secure Tech Systems, Inc.	617	County Progress
315	United Ag & Turf	111,113, 210,212	Texas Association of Counties
316	McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, PC	417, 516	Linebarger Attorneys at Law
317	P2 Emulsions	515, 517	GrantWorks
400	Level 5 Architecture		
401	Roadrunner Bridge		
402	iDocket.com		

Our apologies to those exhibitors whose information was not available at press time.



Special Thanks to our 2023 Conference Sponsors

Platinum

Linebarger Attorneys at Law

Gold

CORE Construction of Texas

GrantWorks

Silver

McCreary, Veselka, Bragg, & Allen, PC

NextEra

P2 Emulsions

S2 Engineering

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Professionals Association

Bronze

Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP

Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

Hart InterCivic

Javier Hinojosa Engineering

Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP

Contributor

David Fuentes, Hidalgo County Commissioner

*Our apologies to those sponsors whose information
was not available at press time.*