

Prepared to Serve

90TH ANNUAL SOUTH TEXAS COUNTY
JUDGES & COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



June 24-27, 2024
South Padre Island Convention Center

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. The judicial education session is partially funded by a Judicial & Court Personnel Training Fund grant administered by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and a Texas Traffic Safety Program grant administered by the Texas Department of Transportation.

For continuing education hours to be awarded, please turn in the institute copy of your credit form at the Registration Desk no later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 27.

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 twelve (12) 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!

2025 CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 91st Annual South Texas County Judges' and Commissioners' Association Conference to be held June 2-5, 2025, in Corpus Christi, 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 25th, participants will attend 'Experience South Padre Island Nature'. Find out more information about this event on page 14.

Sponsored by: Linebarger Attorneys at Law

**Printed Program Sponsored by:
Linebarger Attorneys at Law**

**Audio Visual Sponsored by: Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins
& Mott and Texas County & District Retirement System**

2024 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Site Selection Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Pete Trevino, Judge, Jim Wells Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Rochelle Camacho, Judge, Frio Co.

Hon. Juan Carlos Guerra, Judge, Jim Hogg Co.

Hon. Keith Lutz, Judge, Medina Co.

Hon. Gigi Poynter, Judge, Refugio Co.

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

Resolutions Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Jill Sklar, Judge, Jackson Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III, Judge, Waller Co.

Hon. Jimmy Sylvia, Judge, Chambers Co.

Hon. James E. Teal, Judge, McMullen Co.

Hon. Ben Zeller, Judge, Victoria Co.

Nominations Committee

CHAIR

Hon. David Fuentes, Commissioner, Hidalgo Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Jen Crownover, Commissioner, Comal Co.

Hon. David Garza, Commissioner, Cameron Co.

Hon. Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe, Commissioner, Hays Co.

Scholarship Committee

CHAIR

Hon. Vern Lyssy, Commissioner, Calhoun Co.

MEMBERS

Hon. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Victoria Co.

Hon. Ernie Garcia, Commissioner, Willacy Co.

Hon. Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Aransas Co.

Hon. Greg Seidenberger, Commissioner, Guadalupe Co.

AGENDA AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday, June 24

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Early Bird - County Budgeting

Room 101-104

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Calendars: Budget, Property Tax, & Grievances

Speakers: Dr. Peter McGuill, Director, V.G. Young Institute of County Government & Hon. Tramer Woytek, County Relations Officer, Texas Association of Counties

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Grant Considerations for Budgeting: ARPA/SB 22

Speaker: Hon. Tramer Woytek, County Relations Officer, Texas Association of Counties

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Communicating your Budget to the Public

Speaker: Dr. Peter McGuill, Director, V.G. Young Institute of County Government

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Procedures to Adopt the Budget & Tax Rate

Speaker: Ms. Julie Kylie, Auditor, Williamson Co.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Registration Open

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings

Site Selection Committee

Conference Theater

Resolutions Committee

Room 201

Nominations Committee

Room 202

Scholarship Committee

Room 203

Scholarships Sponsored by: AshBritt and B2Z Engineering

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

President's Welcome Reception

Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by: Linebarger Attorneys at Law

Tuesday, June 25

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration Open

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open

Opening General Session

Room 101-104

8:00 a.m.

Call to Order and Announcements

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

Invocation

Hon. Pete Trevino, 2nd Vice President, South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

Presentation of Colors

Cameron County Color Guard

Pledge of Allegiance

Hon. David Fuentes, First Vice President, South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

National Anthem

Jiada Grace Ortiz

Weslaco East High School Mariachi

Cameron County Welcome

Hon. Eddie Trevino, Jr., Judge, Cameron County

Greetings:

Hon. Jen Crownover, President, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas

Hon. Wade McKinney, President, North and East County Judges and Commissioners Association

Hon. Roger Morris, President, West Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

Hon. Tim Addison, President, Texas Association of Counties Board of Directors

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 25

8:20 a.m.



4.016 Leadership/Teambuilding: Keynote Address- Everyday Heroes

Speaker: Mr. Bob Phillips, Host,
On the Road with Kelli and Bob

This session will examine my personal journey in life and how, with the help of my personal heroes, lead me to create and host the longest running independently produced TV show in the history of television... "Texas Country Reporter." This presentation will be about my discovery during this time that the world's REAL heroes are not the famous, the rich, the athletes or movie stars...but the ordinary people who live their lives in some extraordinary way that makes our world a better place.

Sponsored by: **L3Harris Technologies and
Butler-Cohen Design + Build**

9:10 a.m.



4.022 Cybersecurity: Empowering County Resilience- Strengthening Cybersecurity Initiatives Through Grants & Key Programs

Speaker: Mr. Robert Ruiz, Associate Director –
Risk Management Services, Texas Association
of Counties

This session will provide attendees with a detailed overview of the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program which can help counties improve their cyber resilience. In addition, attendees will learn about other cybersecurity resources available to them.

10:00 a.m.

Refreshment Break

Sponsored by: **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Service Professionals Associations**

10:20 a.m.

Critical Incident Response

Speaker: Mr. Ricardo Garcia, Chief of Police,
City of Premont

An overview of best practices in critical incident response.

11:10 a.m.



4.012 Personnel: County Retirement

Speakers: Ms. Amy Bishop, Executive Director,
Texas County & District Retirement System
Mr. Richard Ashcraft, Field Representative, Texas
County & District Retirement System

See how TCDRS is structured to ensure your plan's funding is pointed in the right direction. In this session, you'll learn how TCDRS is unique and how it helps you save for your future.

Noon

Past President's Luncheon – By Invitation

Room 202

Sponsored by: **Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP**

Special Session for County Judges

Conference Theater

Moderator: Hon. Pete Trevino

1:00 p.m.

Admonishments: Rights and Consequences of a Plea

Speaker: Hon. Martha Huerta Quintanilla, Associate Judge, Nueces Co.

This presentation will provide information relating to the rights of the defendant during a plea, the mandatory explanations the judge must provide and best practices to preserve the defendant's rights.

2:00 p.m.

Mediation/Arbitration: When to Order

Speaker: Hon. Stephanie Moreno, Judicial Education Program Manager, Texas Association of Counties

An overview of the mediation and arbitration processes, when to order a case to negotiate a settlement and best practices for effective court management.

3:00 p.m.

Refreshment Break

3:15 p.m.

Discussion with Your County Attorney

Speaker: Ms. Lupita Almaraz, Assistant County Attorney, Jim Hogg Co.

This session will provide the do's and don'ts of ex parte conversations with your county attorney.

4:15 p.m.

Judicial Administration

Speaker: Hon. Stephanie Moreno, Judicial Education Program Manager, Texas Association of Counties

A review of legislative updates relating to the administration of county court including court notification systems, court confidentiality policies and judicial certification.

5:15 p.m.

Adjourn

Special Session for County Commissioners

Room 101-104

Moderator: Hon. David Fuentes

1:15 p.m.

Call to Order and Announcements

1:20 p.m.



3.016 County Roads: Right of Way Authority

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

Find out what powers of regulation Texas counties have regarding utilities in the public road right of way.

2:10 p.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 presented.

3:00 p.m.

Refreshment Break

Sponsored by: HDR Architecture, Inc
and ERO Architecture, Inc

3:20 p.m.



4.023 Grant Seeking: Flood Infrastructure and Water Funding

Speakers: Hon. David Garza, Commissioner,
Cameron Co.

Hon. David Fuentes, Commissioner, Hidalgo Co.

In this session, the panel will discuss the Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program, eligibility requirements and benefits provided to South Texas counties through the FMA grant program administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

4:10 p.m.



4.003 County Investment Policy

Speaker: Mr. David McElwain, Director -
Advisory Services, Meeder Public Funds

Investment policies are not only statutorily required in Texas but are critical to assuring safety and effective investment of public funds. This session will look at what is legally required to be in your policy, what is practical to include in your policy and why each element is required.

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.

Host Court Night

Cameron County Event Center and Amphitheater
See page 12 for more information.



Wednesday, June 26

7:00 a.m.

Inspirational Breakfast

Room 202

Speaker: Very Rev. Pete Elizardo, Pastor, Saint Joseph Catholic Church

Sponsored by: **Linebarger Attorneys at Law**

8:00 a.m. – Noon

Registration & Exhibits Open

9:00 a.m.

Business Meeting and Installation of Officers

Room 101-104

9:40 a.m.

Refreshment Break

Sponsored by: **Texas Oil & Gas Association, McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen PC, and P2 Emulsions**

CCAC Phase II

Conference Theater

Moderator: Hon. David Fuentes

10:10 a.m.



2.008 County Attorney: Law & Disorder- Unveiling the Mysterious Work of County Attorneys

Speaker: Hon. Jaime Iracheta, County Attorney, Maverick County

In Texas, a county attorney serves as the chief legal advisor to the county government, offering counsel on a wide array of legal issues. Their responsibilities encompass the prosecution of misdemeanor crimes, representation of the county in civil litigation, and provision of legal guidance to county officials and departments. Essentially, they function as the legal backbone of the county, diligently upholding the law and safeguarding the interests of its residents within the framework of Texas statutes and regulations.

11:10 a.m.



2.014 Extension Service

Speaker: Dr. Donald Kelm, Associate Director, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

This session will provide an overview of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

OR

CCAC Phase III

Room 101-104

Moderator: Hon. Jill Sklar

10:10 a.m.



4.026 Indigent Healthcare- Promoting a Healthier Community

Speakers: Mr. Eduardo Olivares, Chief Administrative Officer, Hidalgo County Health & Human Services Department

Ms. Lourdes Acevedo, Division Manager, Hidalgo County Health & Human Services Department

This session will cover the coordination of healthcare partners and resources to best serve county residents. The objective is to maximize the resources available and or the development of access to emerging resources. The ultimate goal is to promote preventative healthcare and wellness as an intervention to decrease the incident of life threatening illness.

11:10 a.m.



4.004 County Purchasing

Speaker: Mr. Philip Arnold, Attorney, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado & Acosta

A presentation on the County Purchasing Act, Alternative Construction Delivery Methods, and the Professional Services Procurement Act. This presentation discusses when a county should use certain statutes when entering into contracts and how to comply with the laws that regulate county purchases.

Noon

Lunch on Your Own



LEISURE ACTIVITIES

1:30 p.m.

Cornhole Tournament

Sandbar Courtyard

Isla Grande

Sponsored by: Linebarger Attorneys at Law

Please remember to register for the tournament at the tournament registration table.

Thursday, June 27

7:30 a.m.

Coffee and Pastries

Foyer

Sponsored by: Hart Intercivic and Bickerstaff
Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Registration Open

General Session

Moderator: Hon. David Fuentes

Room 101-104

8:30 a.m.



4.018 Emergency Management: What to Do During an Event

Speakers: Mr. John O'Valle, Regional Section Chief
for Recovery and Mitigation, TDEM

Mr. Tony Pena, Jr, Region 5 Assistant Chief, TDEM

Mr. Garry Barney, Regional Section Chief for
Preparedness and Response, TDEM

Texas emergency management, preparedness, and
response, how it works and how we got here.

9:20 a.m.



3.002 Commissions and Committees: Jail Standards Commission

Speaker: Mr. Brandon Wood, Executive Director,
Texas Commission on Jail Standards

This presentation will cover issues that county judges
and commissioners should be aware of and how they
impact their jail. It will cover current "hot topics" as
well as recent changes in jail standards and
forecasting.

10:10 a.m.



3.013 Working with the Legislature: Legislative Panel

Speakers: Mr. Jim Allison, Senior General Counsel,
CJCAT

Mr. Rick Thompson, Program Director,
Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP

Invited Guests

An update prior to the 89th Legislative Session will be
provided.

11:00 a.m.

Adjourn





Host Court Night

Tuesday, June 25 · 6:30 p.m.

Cameron County Event Center and Amphitheater

Join Cameron County for a night of fun at the
Cameron County Amphitheater and Event Center.

The Event Center & Amphitheater is 6,791 square feet of state-of-the-art abundant space located at Isla Blanca Park, which is on the southernmost tip of South Padre Island and is the crown jewel of the Parks system.

.....
53550 Dolphin Cove · South Padre Island, Texas 78597
.....

Shuttle service will begin at 6:00 p.m. Return shuttle service will be provided.

Note: If you're planning to drive your own vehicle to Host Court Night, there will be a nominal gate fee to get to the facility.

Many thanks to the Cameron County
Commissioners Court and Planning Committee

Sponsored By:
Linebarger Attorneys at Law

2023-2024 South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association Officers

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Hon. Sammy Farias
Bee County Commissioner

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Hon. David Fuentes
Hidalgo County Commissioner

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Hon. Pete Trevino
Jim Wells County Judge

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Hon. Jill Sklar
Jackson County Judge





Spouse Program

Tuesday, June 25

Learn about South Padre Island's conservation and environmental awareness efforts. The day will begin at South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary to stroll the boardwalk through tidal wetlands and experience the flora, fauna, and the Laguna Madre Coastal area. After lunch, you will then head to the Sea Turtle Inc., where you will dive into the unique world of sea turtle conservation. Lunch is provided.

SCHEDULE

Charter pickup from Convention Center	9:30 am
South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary	10:00 am
Lunch	11:00 am
Sea Turtle Inc	12:30 pm
Return to Convention Center	2:00pm

Sponsored by: **Linebarger Attorneys at Law**

EXHIBITORS

Company Name

Advanced Drainage Systems

AG3 Group, LLC

A-Lert Roof Systems

American National Leasing Company

Arrow-Magnolia International, Inc

AshBritt

Asphalt Zipper

ATMAX Equipment Co.

BG Chemical

Bobcat of Dallas

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Level 5 Architecture

Company Name

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Parsons Roofing

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Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

Texas Association of Counties

Texas Correctional Industries

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Texas Political Subdivisions

Texas Road and Sign Supply.com

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The PlayWell Group, Inc.

Tiger Corporation

TIPS

Transline

TxLTAP - University of Texas at Arlington

VR Systems, Inc.

Vulcan Materials

Waukesha-Pearce Industries

White Construction Company

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



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Texas Oil & Gas Association

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