

**ORDER FOR ELECTION TO BE HELD MAY 3, 2025 ON THE PROPOSITION OF AUTHORIZING THE MAXIMUM TAX RATE OF HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3 TO INCREASE FROM \$.03/\$100 TO \$.10/\$100 AS PROVIDED UNDER HEALTH & SAFETY CODE, §775.0745**

**WHEREAS**, HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3 (the "District") operates pursuant to Texas Constitution, Article III, Section 48-e, and Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the District is a Hidalgo County Emergency Services District and is therefore governed by an appointed Board of Emergency Services Commissioners under Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, §775.0745, Texas Health & Safety Code, requires that such Election be held in conformity with §41.001, of the Texas Election Code, providing for Uniform Election Dates; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Texas passed and the Governor signed a law (Acts 2005, 79th Leg., S.B. No. 1621), to provide for the maximum tax rate for an Emergency Services District wholly in Hidalgo County, Texas to be raised to \$.10/\$100; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas Health & Safety Code, §775.0745 provides that an election is required in order for a District to be authorized to increase its maximum tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 3 Board finds that it would be in the best interests of the District and the residents and commercial interests situated in the District to afford the eligible voters within the District the opportunity to determine whether the maximum tax rate for the District should be raised from \$.03/\$100 to \$.10/\$100,

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that an Election be held in **HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3** on Saturday, May 3, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., on the following proposition:

"To authorize in Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 3 a maximum ad valorem tax rate of ten (10) cents on each \$100 of taxable value of property."

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that:

1. The ballot for the Election shall provide for voting "for" or "against" the above stated proposition. A majority of the votes cast either "for" or "against" the proposition shall determine whether the proposition is adopted. A vote "for" shall mean a vote in favor of the proposition and a vote "against" shall mean a vote against the proposition.

2. The Election may be held jointly with other Hidalgo County entities under the Joint Election Agreement promulgated by the Hidalgo County Election's Office.

3. The Election will be conducted by the Hidalgo County Election's Office under the terms of the Election Services Agreement promulgated by the Hidalgo County Election's Office. To the fullest extent allowed by law, the District delegates to the Hidalgo County Elections Administrator all election duties described in the Agreement.

4. The Election shall be held within the Election Precincts and at the Polling Places designated by the Hidalgo County Elections Administrator (also called "Contracting Officer") pursuant to the Hidalgo County Election Order for the Hidalgo County elections scheduled for May 3, 2025 subject to any such changes as may be made under the authority of such Order. The designation is adopted and approved by the Board of ESD Commissioners.

5. Only persons qualified to vote within the geographic boundaries of **HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3** shall be allowed to vote in the **HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3** Election.

6. The Notice of the Election shall be prepared in accordance with law and shall be given by publication of the Notice of Election. Such publication shall be made at least one time in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the geographic boundaries of the District, said publication to be made not earlier than the 30th day nor later than the 10th day before the Election Date. Further, a copy of such Notice shall, not later than the 21st day before the Election Date, be posted on the bulletin board or other place conspicuous to the public used for posting Notices of the meetings of the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners and a copy shall be filed with the County Clerk of Hidalgo County, Texas. After publication, the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners shall retain a copy of the published Notice that contains the name of the newspaper in which it was published and the date of publication.

7. The voting in the District's Election Precincts shall utilize an Electronic Voting System certified by the Hidalgo County Election's Office. Hidalgo County's certified electronic voting equipment is to be used in the May 3, 2025, Joint Election, as described in the Joint Election Agreement and/or Election Services Agreement.

8. Hilda Salinas, the Hidalgo County Elections Administrator, is hereby designated as the Early Voting Clerk. Early voting shall be conducted in such like manner and in accordance with the applicable early voting provisions as established by Hidalgo County for its May 3, 2025 elections, from April 21, 2025 (the date which represents the earliest date on which early voting may begin) through April 29, 2025 (the date which represents the last day on which early voting may be performed). As ordered by the Board of Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 3, the location of the main early voting place is determined by the Hidalgo County Elections Office and is designated as follows:

Elections Annex  
317 N. Closner Blvd.  
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Branch early voting locations:

As determined by Hidalgo County for its May 3, 2025 elections.

9. Hidalgo County Ballot by Mail Applications and Ballots Voted by Mail shall be sent to the Early Voting Clerk at P.O. Box 659, Edinburg TX, 78540-0659. The Ballot by Mail Applications must be received by April 22, 2025.

10. The following concurrent and subsequent Orders, among other Orders, may be made by the District to facilitate the Election: Order Approving and Appointing an Agent; Order Establishing and Designating Election Precincts and Polling Places; Order Appointing Presiding Election Judges; Order Appointing Early Voting Ballot Board; Order Appointing Early Voting Clerks.

11. In accordance with all applicable Federal and State law, there shall be provided Spanish translation of the ballot as well as other applicable election materials.

12. This Order constitutes the Election Order of **HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3** Election to conduct a tax rate election. The Notice of the Election shall be prepared in accordance with law and shall be given by publication of the Notice of Election along with the Order designating the Voting Precincts and Polling Places for the Election. Such publication shall be made one time in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the geographic boundaries of the District, said publication to be made not earlier than the 30<sup>th</sup> day nor later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day before the Election Date. Further, a copy of such Notice shall, not later than the 21<sup>st</sup> day before the Election Date, be posted on the bulletin board or other place conspicuous to the public used for posting Notices of the meetings of the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners and a copy shall be filed with the County Clerk of Hidalgo County, Texas. After publication, the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners shall retain a copy of the published Notice that contains the name of the newspaper in which it was published and the date of publication.

ADOPTED at Open Meeting this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025, by a vote of 4 to 0.

**HIDALGO COUNTY EMERGENCY  
SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3**

By: 

LUIS FLORES  
President

ATTEST:

By: 

TRAVIS RICHARDS  
Secretary/Treasurer