EDINBURG 2040 February MEETING NOTES

# **LOCATION**: Edinburg Municipal Court

# (100 E Freddy Gonzalez Dr, Edinburg, TX 78539)

# **TIme**: 6:00-7:30

# **Date:** February 2, 2023

# **Guest speakers**:

# Judge Hector Bustos

# Assistant Chief of Police Michael Cerda & Chad Dufner

**Details about the MYAC Trip in 2024:**

* 26 flight tickets cost: $ 5,200-6,500
* Omni Hotel Room Cost:
* Deluxe: (Two Queen beds) $315/night
* Premier: (Two Queen beds) $400/night
* Deciding on donations or fundraising. (Judge Bustos has friends who can donate)
* Room situation and supervision is undecided.
* Food (breakfast, lunch, and dinner): $40/person a day
* $960 for all
* Estimated registration: $150/person = $3,600
* $11,690 fundraising goal with each person pitching in $487

**Trip to Washington:**

* Trip will happen this summer (date not finalized)
* Boys & Girls Club will pay for 4 members.
* Total for D.C. will be talked about during the March meeting
* The 4 chosen students will still fundraise to keep it fair

**State of the City:**

* Date: March 9th
* Leading the Pledge of Allegiance: Tony Venegas
* Logo designed will be printed on polos (Thank you Judge Bustos for the donation)

#### Judge Hector Bustos

**Municipal Court Duties:**

* Takes care of misdemeanors
* Does arraignments for the higher courts levels
* Puts bonds on individuals who break the law

**Legal information:**

* Keeps the public balanced
* Tangible is something you can see, while intangible is something you can’t see
* Mens rea is your mental state
* Actus reus is your action state
* You cannot be punished for thinking of things, only acting on the thought
* Class A Misdemeanor:
  + Sent to jail for one year
  + Fine: Up to $4,000
* Class B Misdemeanor
  + Sent to jail for up to 180 days
  + Fine: Up to $2,000
* Class C Misdemeanor
  + No jail time
  + Fine: Up to $500
* First-Degree Felony
  + 5-99 years in Texas Department of Corrections
  + Fine: Up to $10,000
* Second-Degree Felony
  + 2-20 years in Texas Department of Corrections
  + Fine: Up to $10,000
* Third-Degree Felony
  + 2-10 years in Texas Department of Corrections
  + Fine: Up to $10,000
* Class C crimes are: speeding, public intoxication, driving without insurance, drug paraphernalia, assault caused by family violence, and not using blinker on roads.
* Bond is set to ensure people show up to court
* **“I have never let schooling interfere with my education.”**
* Mark Twain

#### Michael Cerda & Chad Dufner

#### (Assistant Chief of Police)

**Structure of the Police Department:**

* Chief of Police (controls patrol and investigations)
* Assistant Chief of Police (Deals with jail, communications, training divisions, special service administrator)
* Chief of Police has 3 Patrol Lieutenants and 2 Investigation Lieutenants
* Assistance Chief of Police has a Lieutenant in COP and a Lieutenant in Training
* Training has one sergeant and 12 sergeants on patrol
* Patrol Model is changing to either a:
* Geographic-Based System - an investigative method that allows police to identify locations of connected crimes to help determine where an offender may live, particularly in serial cases
* Evidence-Based System- evidence-based approach would suggest using defensible data to put officers in the places where levels of crime and disorder are high and then using practices and tactics that have been scientifically proven to be reliable without alienating the community
* 4 documents are filled out for every charge
* 3 shifts (10-hour shifts)
* 4 days worked and 3 days off
* 190 officers and one Chief
* 2 officers per 1,000 people
* There is a certain section where the PD has jurisdiction

**Police Academy**

* Youngest age to get in: 20 as long as you graduate by 21
* 800 hours (roughly 7 months long)
* Ranges from fitness to the penal code
* Learn a lot of information
* Taze is a volunteered option
* Pepper spray exposure is taught to cadets to allow them to get used to the fighting while in pain

**K9 Information:**

* Dog is looking for their toy when searching places
* They use synthetic drugs and put them in the toys to get them used to the smell
* Bomb dogs are trained on 32 scents
* Dogs will respond to release in English
* Attack commands will be spoken in German

**Citizen Police Academy:**

* Condensed version of police academy
* Once a week for 3 hours on either Tuesday or Thursday
* Allows citizens to receive an insight on policing
* Ride with officers, collect fingerprints, do evidence-based activities, go over dispatch and communications, listen to 911 calls, go to investigations to see paperwork
* Different subjects each week
* Age requirement: 18
* 12-week program
* People currently waitlisted
* Once graduated, the department hires people to go to the full academy and study
* 6-week orientation that shows how Edinburg PD does paperwork and handles crimes

Notes by: Audrey Garcia