



G. Allen Ramirez

ATTORNEY AT LAW

It is with great dismay that I have learned that the Starr County HIDTA Task Force, under the direction of the Starr County 229th Judicial District Attorney's Office, has formally had its funding suspended beginning July 1, 2020.

The Starr County HIDTA Task Force is a critical law-enforcement cog in the ongoing battle to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, not only in Starr County, but throughout the nation. The suspension of funding by the Executive Board of the South Texas HIDTA is a blow not only to our County but to the local offices that were charged with its management and integrity.

While I am deeply concerned about this suspension, not only as a citizen of Starr County but as your next District Attorney, I am confident that this suspension is not a reflection on our local law-enforcement community as a whole. And I am also confident that with careful planning, strategic priorities, new organization and proper oversight, the Starr County HIDTA Task Force can be restored to our County and our law-enforcement community.

Operated and managed properly, HIDTA is vital, especially to a border County such as Starr County. HIDTA's mission, initiative and directive has been entrusted to the 229th Judicial District Attorney's office and I will work tirelessly from now until the end of the year to regain that trust. I have already begun the process of reaching out to local, State, and Federal law-enforcement agencies, with the hope that funding for HIDTA, under the direction of the 229th Judicial District Attorney's office, might be restored beginning January 1, 2021.

As your next District Attorney, I once again pledge to you that I will work diligently to ensure that all law-enforcement agencies working under the auspices of the 229th District Attorney's Office are managed with the highest degree of professionalism and integrity.

Sincerely,

Gocha Allen Ramirez