



# EL PASO COUNTY STATE OF TEXAS

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## RESOLUTION



***WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the United States, including its Bill of Rights, guarantees due process and equal protection under the law to all persons, not just citizens, reaffirmed in landmark rulings such as *Zadvydas v. Davis* (2001), and El Paso County is steadfast in its oath-bound duty to uphold these protections; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments mandate that no person shall be “deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law,” a protection extended to every human being on American soil, underscoring our national commitment to fairness and restraint; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court has long affirmed that “the Constitution applies to all persons within the United States, including aliens, whether their presence here is lawful, unlawful, temporary, or permanent” (*Plyler v. Doe*, 1982), cementing the legal and moral responsibility of all local authorities to treat immigrants with dignity and justice; and*

***WHEREAS**, the writ of habeas corpus, enshrined in Article I, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution, protects against arbitrary detention and underscores the American rejection of unchecked governmental power, obligating us to maintain accountability in all acts of restraint or relocation; and*

***WHEREAS**, transparency and accountability in the treatment, detention, and transport of individuals within El Paso County is not only a matter of good governance but a constitutional imperative grounded in the First and Fourth Amendments’ protections of speech, association, and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures; and*

***WHEREAS**, the principle of reciprocity—“Do to others as you would have them do to you”—echoes not only through sacred scripture but through the American ethos embedded in the Declaration of Independence, which asserts that “all men are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights”; and*

***WHEREAS**, the wearing of body cameras, visible name identification, and clear organizational insignia by any individuals involved in the physical custody or transport of persons is a necessary safeguard in alignment with the values of transparency, democratic oversight, and constitutional accountability; and such individuals must not wear face coverings—except for medically necessary reasons—so that they may be clearly and fully identified by the public they serve; and*

***WHEREAS**, this resolution is a patriotic act of fidelity to the sacred promise of American freedom, which serves as a beacon to the world, guaranteed by the Constitution:*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the El Paso County Commissioners Court demands a clear, consistent, and constitutionally sound process for the handling of individuals—immigrants or otherwise—by any agency or organization operating within our jurisdiction; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this process must include timely and transparent notification detailing who was taken, under what authority, where they were transported, and why such actions were undertaken; **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the El Paso County Commissioners Court urges every city council and county commissioners court across the great State of Texas to adopt similar resolutions reaffirming the timeless American principles of fairness, justice, and human dignity—and to do so not as partisans, but as patriots.*

***SIGNED**, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2025*

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Commissioner Jackie Butler, Pct. 1  
C. Stout, Pct. 2

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Commissioner David

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Commissioner Iliana Holguin, Pct. 3

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Commissioner Sergio Coronado, Pct. 4

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Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge