



EL PASO COUNTY  
STATE OF TEXAS

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RESOLUTION



**WHEREAS**, the Black El Paso Democrats was founded in 1982 by the late R.E.L. Washington (the Colonel). The original leadership of the Black El Paso Democrats was initially part of a non-partisan organization named the “Black Coalition,” recognizing a need for partisanship and advocacy for the interests of the Black Community; and

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Washington and his leaders carefully and personally invited members they thought would be receptive to the needs of the Black Community and become responsible for including Blacks as equal functioning partners in the democratic process; and,

**WHEREAS**, over the past three decades, the organization has sought to serve the best interests of the Black Community of El Paso and the community at large by educating and serving the public, working with other democratic entities toward common goals, and advocating for a better governmental response to public needs; and,

**WHEREAS**, throughout the years, the chairs have been R.E.L. Washington, Otis Hopkins, Gerald Washington, Donald L. Williams and since the organization was chartered in 1982, Dorothy “Sissy” M. Byrd was elected as the first Chairwoman in the organization’s history on November 15, 2015; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Black El Paso Democrats celebrates its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Political Awareness and Awards Banquet with the theme “Uniting for a Better Tomorrow”, which will honor our first responders and teachers for their vital contributions to the health and education of our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners Court recognize the historic contributions of the Black El Paso Democrats and declare February 22, 2025 as:

**“The Black El Paso Democrats 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Political Awareness and Awards Banquet Day”**

**SIGNED**, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025

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Commissioner Jackie Butler, Pct. 1

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Commissioner David C. Stout, Pct. 2

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Commissioner Iliana Holguin, Pct. 3

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Commissioner Sergio Coronado, Pct. 4

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County Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego