



# EL PASO COUNTY STATE OF TEXAS

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## RESOLUTION



**WHEREAS,** *Esteban Lerma was born and raised in El Paso, Texas, and has overcome numerous challenges from a young age; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *after being diagnosed with Medulloblastoma, also known as brain cancer, at four years old, Esteban "Stevie" and his family were faced with the most challenging fight of their lives. He went through months of treatment including chemotherapy, stem-cell transplants, and oral radiation. Six years ago, on Good Friday his condition worsened severely, bringing his family to a critical point in his fight for survival. Despite these obstacles, he is here with us today growing alongside his brothers and sister. Our journey has led us to meet amazing individuals that go out of their way to help families impacted by cancer, such as The El Paso Borderland Crusaders; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jose Duarte, the Founder and President of The El Paso Borderland Crusaders, alongside their exceptional members, including local veterans, have been collecting Easter baskets for the past six years. Children throughout our region, including the Lermas, have been recipients of these baskets of love year after year; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *This year we decided to bridge the gap between families battling cancer and the angels behind the gifts that we have received throughout the years. These baskets meant so much to us, representing that we were not alone on our journey. To many it's just another Easter basket but to these families it's a basket of love, hope, and a reminder that we are part of a strong community; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *El Paso Borderland Crusaders, Jose Duarte, Susie Morales, Natalia Morales and the Lerma family have initiated a basket drive going on now until April 11, 2025. This Easter basket drive is to benefit local families affected by childhood cancer. We have been honored to collaborate with several members of our community to make this happen, including Socorro Independent School District, the El Paso Sheriff's Department, Office of the County Judge, Ricardo A. Samaniego and other non-profit organizations such as Candlelighters, Make-a-Wish and Royal Run; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *The Lerma family, the El Paso Borderland Crusaders and Texas Tech Health El Paso are joining forces to host a free pediatric oncology friendly event called "HOPE EGG HUNT". Children will not only receive an Easter basket, but will be able to partake with local community members hosting interactive booths and take part in an egg hunt. The impact of this event is profound, reminding families impacted by cancer of the support that surrounds them.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** *by the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners Court proudly recognize and celebrate the purpose of the HOPE EGG HUNT happening on April 12, 2025 as an offering of support for families impacted by pediatric cancer:*

***SIGNED, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 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*