

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: **Office of the Mayor**

AGENDA DATE: **February 3, 2026**

CONTACT PERSON NAME/PHONE NUMBER: **Mayor Renard U. Johnson (915) 212-0021**

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: **All Districts**

SUBJECT: Approve the following Resolution

Discussion and action on a Resolution to appoint a member to the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board of Trustees in the area of expertise of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy, as recommended by the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee:

Ranked 1st: Stefanie Block Uribarri

Ranked 2nd: Amy Ross

Ranked 3rd: Jaime Esparza

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The first term of the Public Service Board member serving in the area of expertise of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy, Stefanie Block Uribarri, expires on February 8th, 2026. Mrs. Block is eligible to be appointed for another term since board members are eligible to serve a maximum of two terms.

On January 7th, 2026, as required by Ordinance Number 017167, the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee (hereinafter “Selection Committee”) met and reviewed the applications submitted by the qualified applicants. Mayor Johnson served as Chairperson of the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee’s membership consists of the Public Service Board members, which includes the Mayor and eight persons appointed by City Council, one for each district. The Selection Committee now forwards a slate of three qualified candidates in order of their ranking to the City Council for consideration and appointment.

Advertisements for applicants interested in this position were placed in the El Paso, Inc., and on the City of El Paso and El Paso Water websites.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

Yes. The City Council approved a Resolution on March 11th, 2026 appointing Mr. Lane Gaddy to fill a vacancy of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board of Trustees in the area of expertise of Financial Management and also appointed Mr. Charlie Intebi to a second term of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board of Trustees in the area of expertise of Business Management .

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board budget.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION:

On January 7, 2026, the Selection Committee approved a Resolution selecting and ranking the qualified the top three qualified applicants in the area of expertise of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a vacancy in the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board will occur on February 8th, 2026 with the expiration of the first term of Stefanie. Block Uribarri, who filled the position in the area of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso adopted Ordinance Number 017167 which requires that any vacancy in the membership of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board be filled by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso by Resolution established the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee, to be comprised of the members of the Public Service Board and such additional members as appointed by the City Council to assist City Council in selecting eligible candidates to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, under the Resolution, the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee reviews resumes submitted by persons interested in filling the vacant position and submits to the City Council the names and the ranking of three eligible candidates; and

WHEREAS, a quorum of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee met on January 7th, 2026, pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act and approved the selection and ranking of the top three eligible candidates for consideration and appointment by City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

THAT, a quorum of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee met on January 7, 2026 pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act and approved the selection and ranking the following eligible candidates for consideration and appointment by the City Council to fill a vacancy on the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board in the area of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy:

Ranked 1st: Stefanie Block Uribarri

Ranked 2nd: Amy Ross

Ranked 3rd: Jaime Esparza

THAT, the El Paso City Council hereby appoints _____ to fill the vacancy on the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board in the area of Environmental or Health. The term of appointment shall commence on February 11th, 2026, and shall be for a four (4) year term.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of February, 2026.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

Renard U. Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Karla M. Nieman 1/27/2026
Karla M. Nieman
City Attorney

PSB Selection Committee
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
Consumer or Citizen Advocacy

SCORING OF CANDIDATES

| CANDIDATES | NUMBER OF POINTS: | RANK |
|-----------------|----------------------|------|
| Stephanie Block | 24 | 1 |
| Amy Ross | 17 | 2 |
| Jaime Esparza | 13 | 3 |

Jay Lut
Committee Chairman

1/07/26

Date

Tom
General Counsel

1/07/26

Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a vacancy in the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board will occur on February 9, 2026, with the expiration of the first term of Stefanie Block Uribarri, who filled the Public Service Board member position serving in the area of Consumer and Citizen Advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso adopted Ordinance Number 017167 which requires that any vacancy in the membership of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board be filled by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso by Resolution established the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee, to be comprised of the members of the Public Service Board and such additional members as appointed by the City Council to assist City Council in selecting eligible candidates to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, under the Resolution, the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee reviews resumes submitted by qualified people interested in filling the vacant position and submits to the City Council the names and the ranking of the eligible candidates.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EL PASO WATER UTILITIES PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SELECTION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

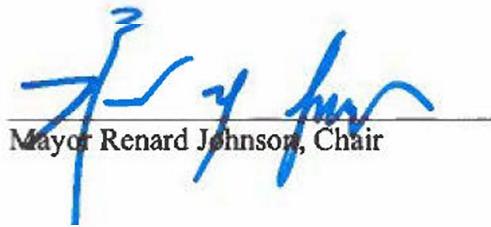
THAT, a quorum of the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee met on January 7, 2026, pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act and approved the nomination and recommendation to the City Council of the following candidates to fill a vacancy on the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board:

1. Stefanie Block Uribarri
2. Amy Ross
3. Jaime Esparza

THAT, the Chair of the Committee forward the recommendations to the El Paso City Council for their consideration for filling the vacancy on the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board.

PASSED and APPROVED this 7th day of January, 2026.

El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board Selection Committee:



Mayor Renard Johnson, Chair

Approved As To Form:



Daniel Ortiz, General Counsel

PSB AREAS OF EXPERTISE, EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

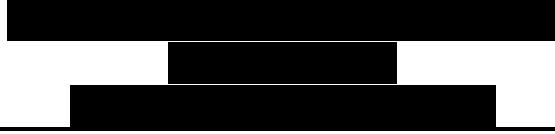
Consumer or Citizen Advocacy:

A citizen and consumer working for openness and democratic accountability in government; the rights of the consumer; clean, safe and sustainable water resources; strong health, safety and environmental protections; and affordable water, wastewater, reclaimed water and stormwater services.

Experience and knowledge in supporting the rights of the consumer to obtain safe goods and services at fair prices. Education and training can be from a variety of areas such as law, health, science, education, political science, training in research or public information and community education, and dispute and complaint investigation and resolution.

Degree in law, government administration, public policy or political science, technical and liberal arts degrees, and a minimum of four years experience preferred; community involvement experience that accents demonstrated leadership; no conflicts of interest; abide by a specified code of ethics; and no current political office held.

STEFANIE BLOCK URIBARRI



11/21/25

Public Service Board Selection Committee
El Paso Water
1154 Hawkins
El Paso, TX 79925

Dear Public Service Board (PSB) Selection Committee:

In 2013, I returned to El Paso to be with family and play a role in the revitalization and sustainable development of my hometown. Since then, I have devoted myself to making El Paso better through community service and advocacy. Building on my experience in international outreach and education at Columbia University (NY) and the United Nations (Chile), and my background in customer service and project management as a Principal at Pearl Properties, I've been able to accomplish significant achievement for my community, including the construction of Thunderbird Playground at the Jan Sumrall Trailhead and supporting the growth and renovation of The Cherry Hill School, a certified project based learning school. At El Paso Water, I've made meaningful progress in the following areas in cooperation with fellow board members and staff:

- Increasing transparency and accessibility in key areas, such as reforms to the process for contacting the PSB and the annual budgeting process for rate-setting;
- Promoting public engagement and understanding of EP Water via common-sense reforms such as introducing executive briefings to meetings and moving public comments to the start of sessions;
- Working with the Communications Committee to support a culturally competent public information campaign focused on conservation, storm water flood prevention, and El Paso Water's responsible stewardship of our most important natural resource.
- Helping streamline the application and rebate process for commercial conservation incentives, increasing their accessibility for small businesses;
- Participating in the Citizen's Academy to broaden my understanding of EP Water's complex operations and the health measures in place, provide feedback to staff, and support participants' development into effective consumer advocates.

El Paso Water is an extremely complex organization, and it took time to gain the requisite understanding to become an effective board member. I am now confident in my knowledge and ability, and am uniquely qualified to serve as Citizen Advocate because of my background in outreach, entrepreneurship and customer service. I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue serving my community by supporting El Paso Water's commitment to ongoing improvement in the areas of openness and accountability; clean, safe and sustainable water resources; affordability; and strong health, safety and environmental protections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,



Stefanie Block Uribarri

STEFANIE BLOCK URIBARRI



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PEARL PROPERTIES

El Paso, TX

Principal, 2013 – present.

General manager of a real estate investment and management company that specializes in rental housing and office buildings. Responsible for all aspects of the organization, including daily operations, customer service, renovations, marketing and public relations.

- Spearheaded effort to ensure that apartment dwellers in Sunset Heights continued to have access to public parking, gaining support of diverse stakeholders including residents, building owners and the neighborhood association.
- Implemented conservation campaigns for residents.

UNESCO, REGIONAL BUREAU OF EDUCATION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Santiago, Chile

Managing Editor, Communications and Publications Department, 2009 – 2012.

Responsible for the Regional Bureau's communications strategy to promote education development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Supervised the publication of all written materials. Participated in national and international meetings and conferences with ministries of education, universities, teachers, media and non-profit organizations to spread best practices in Education for All. Supervised unit budget and staff.

- Made policy recommendations and created outreach plan as a member of the UNESCO Working Group on Youth. Promoted inclusive youth and higher education policy across the region.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

New York, NY

Program Manager, International Programs and Prizes, 2007 – 2009.

Supervised premiere national and international journalism awards, including the Maria Moore Cabot Prize and Lukas Prize Project. Responsible for public outreach and the design and implementation of education programs for medalists. Selected international students for admission and scholarships and provided them with cultural education and support services.

- Designed and coordinated conferences, internships and other professional development activities with news organizations in the United States and abroad.
- Obtained funding for, planned and organized "Scared Silent: Journalists Under Siege," a conference that provided training to journalists from across LAC with their expenses fully covered.

THE COMMITTEE FOR HISPANIC CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (CHCF)

New York, NY

Development Associate, 2005 - 2007.

Wrote grant applications, designed programs and evaluations, organized fundraising events, and cultivated relationships with donors. Tracked program implementation and monitoring.

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, TEACHERS COLLEGE

New York, NY

Master of Arts, International Educational Development

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

New York, NY

Fellowship for Emerging Leaders in Public Service

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

Santiago, Chile

Fulbright Fellow

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

EL PASO WATER

El Paso, TX

Pubic Service Board, 2022- present

Member of board of trustees vested with management and control over El Paso Water Utility.

EL PASO APARTMENT ASSOCIATION (EPAA)

El Paso, TX

Vice President, 2021 - 2025.

Executive Board, 2017 - 2025.

Member, 2013 - present.

Member of the local affiliate of a state and national trade organization for the apartment industry.

- Chair, Independent Rental Owners Committee, Texas Apartment Association, 2019 – 2020.
- Independent Rental Owner of the Year Award, 2017

THUNDERBIRD PLAYGROUND, CORONADO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (CHNA)

El Paso, TX

Chair, 2016 – 2021.

Initiated a public-private partnership between CHNA and the City of El Paso to install a playground at the Jan Sumrall Memorial Trailhead. Recruited co-chair and board members, implemented fundraising campaign, designed playground, created marketing and outreach materials, and worked with the City to supervise the design and installation of the site.

CITY OF EL PASO

Public Art Commission, 2014 – 2017, selected publicly funded art.

Building and Standards Commission, 2014 – 2018, enforced building codes to ensure the safety of structures.

Affordable Housing Task Force, 2020, selected to assist with the design of policies to increase access to affordable housing.

EL PASO OPERA (EPO),

Board Member and President of the BRAVO Alliance, 2012 - 2014.

Provided oversight over the organization. Organized events, fundraisers and outreach activities.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Editor, *Education, Youth and Development: UNESCO in Latin America*. UNESCO. Santiago, 2010.

Assistant editor. *Challenges of the Chilean Education System Based on the Presentations and Conclusions of the Seminar “Perspectives for Education in Chile.”* OECD and UNESCO, Santiago, 2010.

Managing editor, *Espacios Educativos: Edición Bicentenario*. UNESCO and MINEDUC. Santiago, 2010.

Author, "Educación Sexual en los Estados Unidos: El enfoque en abstinencia exclusiva" in *Revista Mujer Salud*, pp 33- 39. Red de Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe (Santiago: Vol. 1/2006).

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (fluent)

AMY ROSS, PMP

PROJECT MANAGER

CONTACT

November 10, 2025

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Edith Lara,

This letter is to accompany my resume for application to the Public Service Board. I hold a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and am a Certified Project Management Profession (PMP). Currently I work as a Project Manager, as well as an instructor in Project Management at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).

RECIPIENT

Edith Lara, Executive Secretary
El Paso Water
1154 Hawkins Blvd.
El Paso, TX 79925
edith.lara@epwater.org

My public service experience includes two terms as a member of the Civil Service Commission, during which I had the privilege of serving as both Board Secretary and Board Chair. I have extensive experience in nonprofit governance, having completed eight years of service on the El Paso Children's Hospital Board, concluding my tenure in March of 2024. Currently, I serve as a board member for the BorderRac, a board member for both the El Paso Children's Hospital Foundation and the UMC Foundation, and I am proud to hold the position of President of the Texas Perinatal Association.

I have been pleased to call El Paso my home for the last fourteen years and am committed to the growth and well-being of our community. Joining the Public Service Board would be an honor, allowing me to leverage my experience in public service, nonprofit governance, and leadership to make a meaningful impact.

Sincerely,

Amy Ross, PMP

AMY ROSS

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Arlington

2002 - 2004

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Brigham Young University

1993 - 1997

BS, Microbiology

Minor(s): Spanish and Chemistry

CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management Professional (PMP)

Project Management Institute (PMI)

2003 - Present

Agil Hybrid Project Pro

Project Management Institute (PMI)

2021 – Present

Six Sigma Green Belt

2003 - Present

BaaN Warehouse & Logistics

2000 - Present

WORK EXPERIENCE

EPIC Pediatric Imaging Project Manager

August 2021–Present

Project Manager and account manager for EPIC Pediatric Imaging. In charge of all IT implementations on behalf of the group as well as on-going issues resolution and reporting.

Texas Perinatal Association (TPA) Board President

January 2019–Present

[Describe your responsibilities and achievements in terms of impact and results. Use examples but keep in short.]

University of Texas at El Paso Instructor

March 2017–Present

Project Management Professional Certification instructor for the UTEP P3 Program.

Texas Perinatal Association (TPA) Board Member

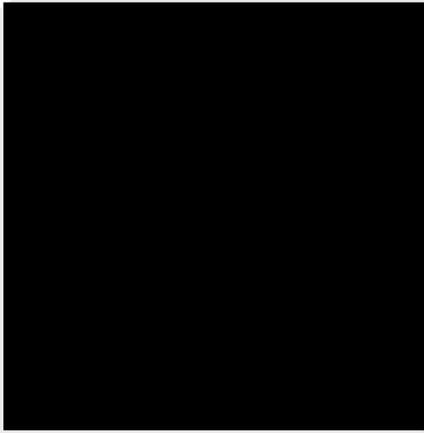
December 2012 - Present

Chair of Information Technology Committee, Website and social media coordinator, Chair of TPA El Paso Conference.

El Paso Children's Hospital Foundation and UMC Board Member

2017 - Present

CONTACT



El Paso Children's Hospital (EPCH) Board Member

April 2016 – March 2024

Chair of Compliance Committee, Vice Chair of Quality.

Civil Service Commissioner City of El Paso Texas

Served 2 terms:

February 2016 - January 2019

February 2019 - January 2022

Secretary: 2017 - 2020

Chair: 2020- 2021

Ryder Logistics IT Project Manager

July 2000 – July 2010

Managed IT implementations for company clients.

Ryder Logistics Application Launch Manager

July 2000 – December 2002

Responsible for managing the team of Ryder Transportation Management Application Launch Managers.

Responsible for application configuration and requirements gathering for customers.

Provided level 2 help desk support.

Newways International IT Project Manager

November 1999 – July 2000

Managed IT implementations on BaaN for international company locations.

Newways International Enterprise Application Specialist

November 1999 – July 2000

Subject matter Expert.

Completed three full BaaN implementation life cycles

Newways International Laboratory Technician

April 1997 – August 1998

Supervised and trained all laboratory personnel

Researched developed new personal care products

JAIME ESPARZA
ATTORNEY AT LAW



November 4, 2025

Public Service Board Selection Committee

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

My professional career reflects my dedication to the principles of accountability, transparency, and service. I believe my experiences uniquely positions me to contribute to the Public Service Board. It is with great respect for the mission of El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board (PSB) that I submit my letter of interest to serve as a member of the Public Service Board in the area of Consumer or Citizen Advocacy.

Having devoted more than four decades of my career to public service—as United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, District Attorney for the 34th Judicial District, and in various leadership roles across the justice system—I am eager to continue contributing my experience, judgment, and commitment to the community I have called home for my entire professional life.

El Paso Water Utilities is central to the health, resilience, and economic vitality of our community and its stewardship requires leaders who understand governance, complex organizational management, and the importance of long-term planning. My background in leading large public institutions, building coalitions, and introducing innovative approaches to systemic challenges will allow me to add value to the PSB in areas such as oversight, community trust, and accountability.

I was appointed by President Joseph R. Biden and confirmed by the United States Senate as United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas to oversee one of the largest and most complex federal jurisdictions in the nation. I directed

more than 14,000 federal prosecutions and over 9,000 civil cases across 68 counties, with a focus on public safety, accountability, and community trust. Prior to that, I served seven terms as District Attorney for El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson Counties (1993–2020), managing an office of nearly 200 attorneys and staff. In this capacity, I built innovative programs such as the nationally recognized 24-Hour Domestic Violence Contact Initiative and the Border Prosecution Unit, fostering collaboration with local, state, and federal partners to ensure justice and protect victims.

Beyond the courtroom, I have served in leadership roles with nonprofit organizations such as the Texas Council on Family Violence, the Advocacy Center for the Children of El Paso, and the Center Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence.

I believe these experiences uniquely position me to contribute to the Public Service Board. El Paso Water Utilities is central to the health, resilience, and economic vitality of our community and its stewardship requires leaders who understand governance, complex organizational management, and the importance of long-term planning. My background in leading large public institutions, building coalitions, and introducing innovative approaches to systemic challenges will allow me to add value to the PSB in areas such as oversight, community trust, and accountability.

Most importantly, my career has been rooted in service to the people of El Paso. I understand the weight of responsibility that comes with representing the public's interest, and I would be honored to bring this perspective to El Paso Water's mission of ensuring reliable and sustainable water services for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jaime E. Esparza

JAIME ESPARZA

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Law Office of Jaime Esparza CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY | 2025- present |
| • Boutique law firm specializing in criminal defense | |
| Western District of Texas UNITED STATES ATTORNEY | 2022-2025 |
| • Nominated by President Joe Biden on October 14, 2022; confirmed by U.S. Senate December 6, 2022; sworn in December 9, 2022. | |
| • Oversaw more than 14,000 federal criminal prosecutions and over 9,000 civil cases in a border district covering 68 counties. | |
| District Attorney's Office, 34 th Judicial District- El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson Counties DISTRICT ATTORNEY | 1993 - 2020 |
| Served seven terms as the Chief Prosecutor for a large border jurisdiction encompassing three counties prosecuting approximately 7,000 felony and 18,500 misdemeanor crimes each year, and managing an office of approximately 190 people, including 95 prosecutors and 95 staff members. Credited for working with colleagues across the state and nation to find better ways to ensure community safety and offer more innovative and effective prosecution practices. | |
| Implemented the following initiatives: | |
| • Border Prosecution Unit: partnership with 19 Texas jurisdictions and with the Federal Government in the prosecution of border crime cases | |
| • Foreign Prosecution Unit: International Extraditions and Article 4 Prosecutions in Mexico | |
| • D.I.M.S. (District Attorney Information Management System): 24-hour District Attorney Intake System | |
| • Service to more than 24,000 victims of crime each year with a variety of outreach programs | |
| • Domestic Violence Unit: 8 attorneys designated to investigation, victim outreach and prosecution of more than 3,500 cases each year. | |
| • Nationally Recognized Domestic Violence 24-Hour Contact Initiative: innovative and unique nationally recognized program that makes contact and provides support to victims; collects evidence and makes charging decisions within 24 hours of arrest. | |
| El Paso County Attorney's Office ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY | El Paso, Texas 1992 |
| El Paso County Public Defender ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER | El Paso, Texas 1988 - 1991 |
| District Attorney's Office, 34 th Judicial District ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY | El Paso, Texas 1987 |
| Harris County District Attorney's Office ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY | Houston, Texas 1983 - 1987 |

EDUCATION

| | |
|------|--|
| 1990 | Board Certified in Criminal Law, State Bar Board of Legal Specialization |
| 1983 | J.D. University of Houston Law Center – Houston, Texas |
| 1979 | B.A. University of Texas – Austin, Texas - (Finance/General Business) |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND HONORS

2020 El Paso Bar Association Living Legend
2020 Texas Impaired Driving Task Force- Texas Department of Transportation
2019 League of Women Voters of El Paso's Lifetime Achievement Bravo Award
2018 to Present, Chair, Board of Directors- Texas Council on Family Violence
2012 to 2018, Board Member-Texas Council on Family Violence
2016-Mexican American Bar Association- "Investing in Our Community's Future" Award
2015- National MADD President's Award- Criminal Justice Prosecutor of the Year
2013- Paul H. Chapman Award- Foundation for Improvement of Justice
2008 Black El Paso Democrats Certification of Appreciation (for promoting a better response to public needs)
2005-2006 Prosecutor of the Year, State Bar of Texas
2006 El Paso Lawyer of the Year, El Paso Bar Association
2003 McDonald's Triunfadores- Recognition in Government Service
1997 & 2000 Prosecutor of the Year, Texas Narcotics Officers Association
2000 El Paso Defense Lawyers' Chingon Award for the State of Texas
1983 University of Houston Law Center- Outstanding Service Award
Past President & Past Chairman of Board, Texas District and County Attorneys Association
Past Member Board of Directors, National District Attorneys Association
Founding Board Member, Advocacy Center for the Children of El Paso
Center Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence Recognition