

**Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion’s Mission Statement is to mobilize Latino leaders to impact economic and social equity, educational opportunities, and cultural appreciation; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion was organized in 2010 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion’s purpose is to improve the lives of El Paso’s Latino community by instilling pride and providing leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion’s recent programs have awarded scholarships to area students, and spearheaded the completion of the Men of Company E Monument honoring the memory of brave men from El Paso who sacrificed their lives during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion annually conducts the Young Achievers Forum in partnership with the University of Texas at El Paso and New Mexico State University and touches the lives of thousands of students from area schools encouraging them to continue their education beyond high school; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion’s Latino Legacy Award recognizes individuals who are worthy of recognition at the highest level; and

**WHEREAS**, Community en Accion has named the following individuals as the recipients of the 2023 Latino Legacy Award:

1. Oscar Venegas: Founder and, until 2019, President of VEMAC, Inc., a successful and highly respected construction company, Mr. Venegas started the Alumni Association for Civil Engineering at the University of Texas at El Paso and has received numerous civic and business awards for his dedication and service to our community.
2. Maria Elena Flood: Mrs. Flood is a trailblazer in higher education and healthcare who advocated and worked tirelessly for the expansion of Texas Tech School of Medicine and Thomason Hospital in our community, resulting in improved healthcare for hundreds of thousands of persons in West Texas, Southern New Mexico, and Northern Mexico. In addition, Mrs. Flood has been an important part of numerous community organizations.
3. Modesto A. Gomez: Mr. Gomez was a World War I veteran and founder of the Marcos B. Armijo VFW Post 2753. He was an early civil rights leader, an original member of the El Paso Housing Authority Board of Directors, and instrumental in convincing federal and local governments of the urgent need for federal housing in our community. Mr. Gomez was an advocate for improving education for schools in South El Paso, as well as an entrepreneur and National President of the League of United Latin American Citizens in 1943. This award is presented posthumously.

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2023, Community en Acción is recognizing these exceptional members of our community at the Paso del Norte Hotel in El Paso Texas;

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

That the City of El Paso City Council congratulates Oscar Venegas, Maria Elena Flood, and the family of Modesto A. Gomez and encourages our community to join in honoring and celebrating the lives and accomplishments of the 2023 Latino Legacy Award recipients.


**APPROVED** this 12th day of September 2023.

**CITY OF EL PASO**

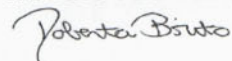
  
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Oscar Leeser  
Mayor



**ATTEST:**

  
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Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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Roberta Brito  
Assistant City Attorney