

# STARR COUNTY

WINTER EDITION





# New Jobs and Growth in 2014



Starr County Wind Farms are providing new Jobs....better economy!!!  
Job Fair held January 21, 2014 in Starr County... Over 200 new jobs to date  
and more than 250 coming soon!

Judge Eloy Vera with visits with applicants at job fair.





## *Message from Starr County Judge Eloy Vera...*

On behalf of the Commissioners' Court and myself, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! At this time we come together to reflect on the importance of family and friendships. We are blessed to live in a community where the outpour of generosity for those less fortunate is a common gesture, a handshake is firm and binding and we genuinely care for each other. This community is like no other in the humility and honesty, where hands may be caliced from work and eyes may be weary from staying up all night with a sick child, and families still gather on Sundays after going to church. The community is growing but the values and traditions of hard work and good principles are passed on from generation to generation. We are a proud community where generosity is prevalent, and prosperity abounds.

For these reasons the Starr County Elected Officials, Commissioners' Court and myself are proud to work for you! We are proud to support educational programs, veteran initiatives, new business ventures, and employment opportunities. Together we can continue to shape a community that we are proud to call home, a community we are proud to leave behind for our children and grandchildren, where they can succeed and be prosperous.

We would like to invite you to come to our offices for a visit to inquire on projects that we are working on or simply just to say hello.

Sincerely,

**Eloy Vera**  
*Starr County Judge*

## *Mensaje de Eloy Vera Juez del Condado Starr...*

Departa de la Corte de Comisarios y su servidor, les deseamos a todos un próspero y feliz año nuevo! En estos días nos reunimos para reflexionar sobre la importancia de la familia y amistades. Nos sentimos bendecidos de ser parte de una comunidad donde el flujo de la generosidad para los menos afortunados es un gesto común, un saludo es firme y vinculante y donde cuidar de los demás nos nace del corazón. Esta comunidad es como ninguna otra en la humildad y honestidad, donde el trabajo se puede ver en las manos y es común que los ojos estén cansados de estar despierto toda una noche con un niño o un padre anciano enfermo pero la responsabilidad de trabajo se cumple, y las familias todavía se reúnen después de ir a la iglesia los domingos.

La comunidad está creciendo pero los valores y tradiciones de trabajo duro y de buenos principios se transmiten de generación en generación. Somos una comunidad humilde donde predomina la generosidad, y abunda la prosperidad.

Por estas razones los funcionarios de Starr County, la Corte de Comisionados y yo nos enorgullecemos de trabajar para ustedes! Estamos orgullosos de apoyar los programas educativos, iniciativas para veteranos, nuevos negocios y oportunidades de empleo. Juntos podemos seguir formando una comunidad que nos sentimos orgullosos de llamarle nuestro hogar, una comunidad que nos enorgullece dejar a nuestros hijos y nietos, donde podrán tener éxito y ser prósperos.

Nos gustaría invitarle a venir a nuestras oficinas para una visita por información sobre proyectos en los que estamos trabajando o simplemente para saludar.  
Atentamente,

**Eloy Vera**  
*Juez de Condado de Starr*



# ABEL CANTU PCT.1

- Work on San Julian Rd.
- Work on North 3167
- Improving Fires Department, New Equipment and Equipment



Commissioner Abel Cantu Precinct 1  
4192 W. Hwy 83  
Rio Grande City, Texas 78582  
Tel 956.847.1339

## PROJECTS



*Senior Center Activities*



*Working on grant for new  
Fire Truck for La Rosita  
Fire Department*



*Community Involvement*



*Working on programs for Senior Centers*



# PROJECTS



*City of Roma Swearing In Ceremony*



*Pct. 2 Starr County Cemetery*



*Delivering Christmas Toys in Fronton*



*Toys for children in Salineno*



*Eracting Cross at Starr County Cemetery*



# RAUL "ROY" PENA PCT. 2

- New Roof on Nutrition Center
- Completed Baseball Part in Salineno, TX
- Drainage Channel in El Ranchito Rd.
- Begin work on Veterans Cemetery



*Commissioner Roy Pena Precinct 2  
500 E. Hwy 83 Roma, Texas 78584  
Tel 956- 849-737*





# ELOY GARZA PCT.3

- Repairing Pipeline Rd.
- Remodeling El Cenizo Center
- Paved numerous streets including El Chaparral Subdivision and Mele St.



Commissioner Eloy Garza Precinct 3  
 6163 FM 1430 Rio Grande City,  
 Texas 78582  
 Tel 956-487-2120



*Self Help Center Receives donation from Medina Electric*



*Commissioner Garza works on Pct. 3 Community Cemetery*



*Community Involvement*



*Senior Citizens Center Residents receive warm blankets.*



*Volunteering at Festival to raise monies for school uniforms for underprivileged students*



# PROJECTS



*Community Gardens to provide fresh fruits and vegetables.*



*Food Pantry feeds 1000 families monthly.*



*Providing nutrition and educational activities for senior citizens*



*Senior Citizens Center Coronation*

# RUBEN D. SAENZ PCT. 4

- Completed Park in San Isidro Community Center
- Worked on paving numerous roads
- Maintain Parks



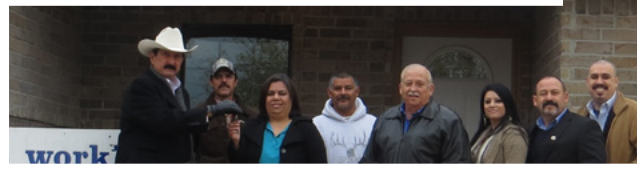
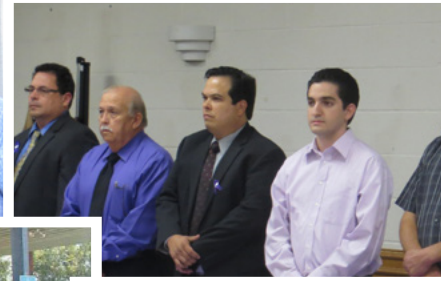
*Commissioner Ruben D. Saenz Precinct 4*

*500 N. Britton Ave.*

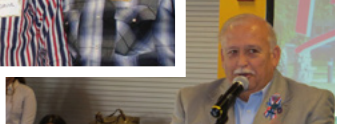
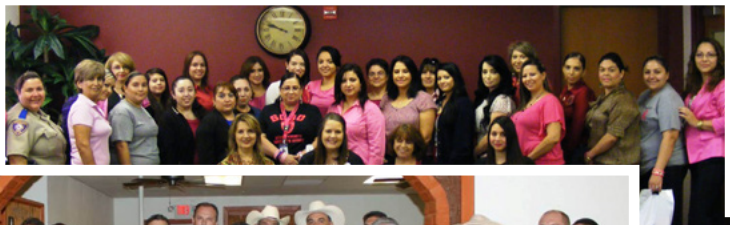
*Rio Grande City, Texas 78582*

*Tel 956-487-2922*











# Community Projects

Domestic Violence Awareness

Child Abuse Awareness

Tree of Angels (Victims of Violent Crimes)

Foster Children Christmas Gift Project



**Omar Escobar, Jr.**  
Starr County District Attorney



**Victor Canales**  
Starr County Attorney



**Representative for United Way of South Texas (Funds Distribution)**



**Starr County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard Unit**  
An Honor Guard Unit has been formed within the Starr County Sheriff's Office to represent the Sheriff's Office during Starr County Ceremonies.

**Officers Pedro Bermea, Erasmo Rios, Juan Guerra, and Cindy Ramirez. Sheriff Rene Orta Fuentes commends the officers for their dedication in forming this unit**





Rene Orta Fuentes  
Starr County Sheriff

Starr County Sheriff's Office

Seized:  
31 Sold  
9 Returned  
99 Pending  
139 Total Seized

Arrest Warrants Served 2013:  
1,000 arrest







## *History and General Duties of the County Clerk.*

The office of the County Clerk has been in existence in Texas since 1836, superseding the escribano (secretary) of Spanish-Mexican rule.



**Dennis Gonzalez**  
Starr County Clerk

### **Duties of the County Clerk:**

- Serves as Clerk for the county court, county courts at law and the county keeps records pertaining to the county courts real, personal property and personal records.
- Administers other licensing and recording requirements
- Conducts countywide special and general elections and handles early voting
- Bringing technology and innovation to government services.
- Consolidated court collections for District, County Courts, and JP Courts maximizing county officers.
- Verifies past judgments for accuracy to inform law enforcement.
- Implementing eFiling to reduce public waiting times.
- Making official public records available online.

### **Record Documents**

- Births
- Deaths
- Marriages
- Vital Archives
- Wills



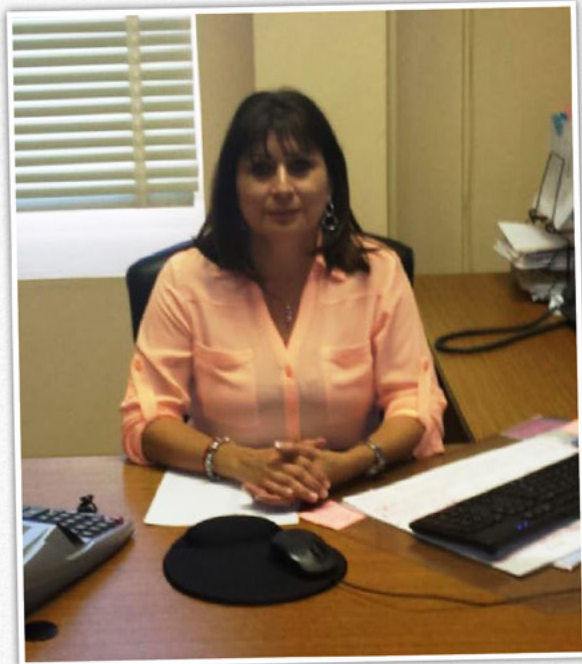
**County Clerk Office Staff**





## *Duties of Compliance and Collections Office:*

- Monitor compliance of Judicial Orders through collection of fines, fees and courts costs.
- Develop and implement procedures in accordance with department, county and state policy.
- Monitor daily collection activities, application process, notification process and data entry.
- Establish collection guidelines between courts.
- Coordinate collections with city and state agencies.
- Review and monitor delinquent accounts.
- Monitor collection of court costs, fines and restitution from courts.
- Assist in preparing payment schedule



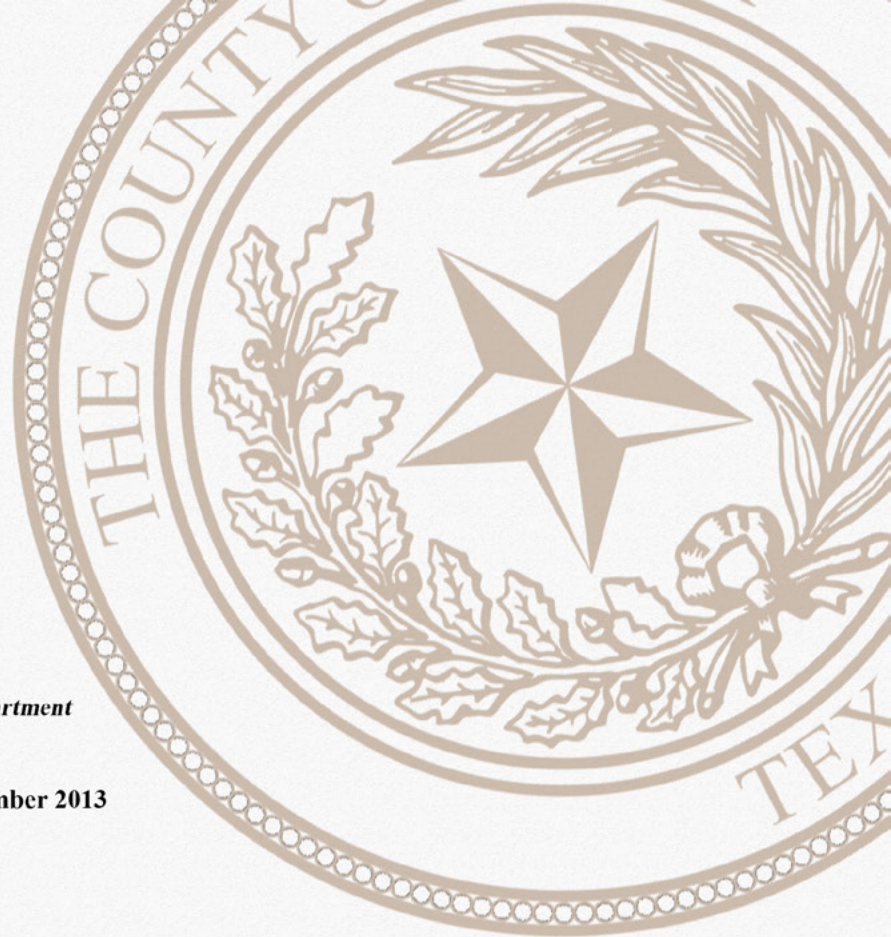
**Leticia Sepulveda**  
*Compliance and Collections*



### COMPLIANCE AND COLLECTIONS

|               | 2012                 | 2013                 |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| JANUARY       | \$ 51,840.65         | \$ 61,695.86         |
| FEBRUARY      | \$ 67,159.64         | \$ 83,876.40         |
| MARCH         | \$ 79,797.90         | \$ 76,863.18         |
| APRIL         | \$ 64,672.62         | \$ 78,641.58         |
| *MAY          | \$ 60,742.72         | \$ 67,142.06         |
| *JUNE         | \$ 60,113.49         | \$ 71,001.67         |
| *JULY         | \$ 70,230.93         | \$ 46,008.98         |
| *AUGUST       | \$ 79,768.49         | \$ 69,853.94         |
| *SEPTEMBER    | \$ 61,606.18         | \$ 53,807.89         |
| *OCTOBER      | \$ 62,293.83         | \$ 71,323.93         |
| *NOVEMBER     | \$ 58,820.29         | \$ 55,547.36         |
| *DECEMBER     | \$ 43,217.67         | \$ 53,098.01         |
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | <b>\$ 760,264.41</b> | <b>\$ 788,860.86</b> |





**Jaime Garza**  
*Health/Code Enforcement Department*

Utility permits  
January 2013 through December 2013

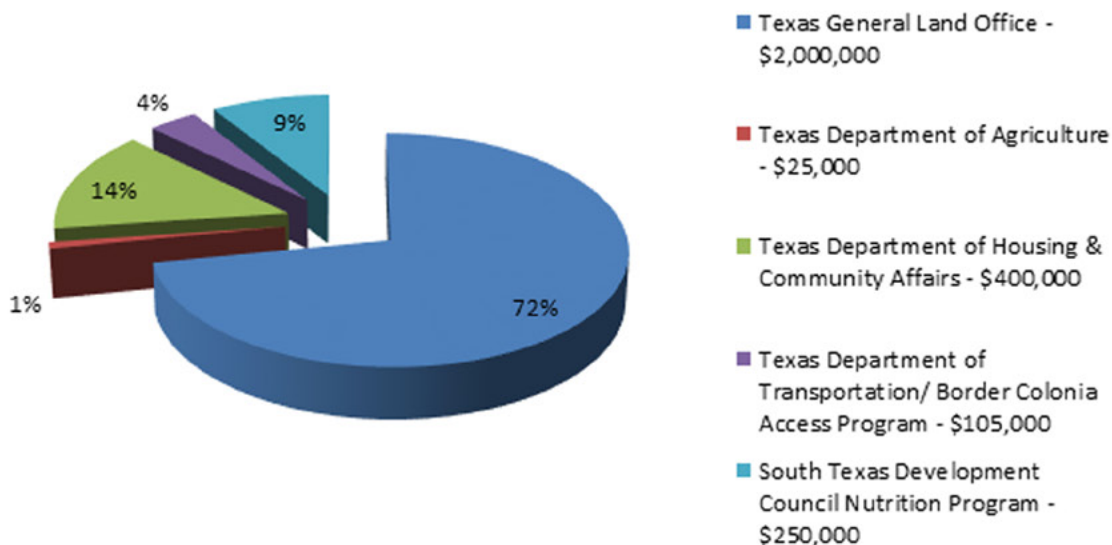
Residential: 527

Commercial: 75

Health permits for Business Establishments for the year: 250  
Permits issued for Churches, Water Wells, and Agricultural Use: 126



### Federal & State Programs





# Starr County Economic Development News

CREATING A BUSINESS FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO ATTRACT MORE INDUSTRY TO ENSURE GROWTH



## County Commissioners Court Approve second Wind Farm –More Jobs for Starr County

Starr County Judge Eloy Vera and Starr County Commissioners support the creation of a second Reinvestment Zone by approving an abatement agreement for EDP Renewable Company for the construction of the second wind farm in Starr County. The County continues to evolve in the alternative energy industry and approving the second wind farm project during Starr County Commissioner Court on February 10, 2014 will ensure that our community continues to advance in this emerging industry. Starr County officials together with the Starr County Industrial Foundation are working to develop more alternative energy projects in Starr County, thus creating job opportunities for residents. Pictured: County Clerk Dennis Gonzalez, Commissioner Ruben Saenz, Commissioner Abel Cantu, Starr County Judge Eloy Vera, Mr. Kristofer Cheney-Representative of EDP Renewables, Commissioner Eloy Garza, Miss Nilda Elizondo-Industrial Foundation, and Commissioner Roy Pena



## Starr County's first Alternative Energy Project being planned.

Starr County Judge Eloy Vera and Starr County Commissioners approved the creation of a Reinvestment Zone and are working to develop an alternative energy project in Starr County. During a scheduled Commissioners Court Meeting on July 26, 2013, an abatement was approved allowing DEGS Wind I, LLC to move a step closer to finalizing the development. The project is expected bring about \$460 million of investment and create hundreds of jobs during its construction phase which will have a vital impact on our local economy. Pictured; Commissioner Pct. 2- Raul "Roy" Pena, Commissioner Pct. 1- Abel Cantu, Miss Rose Benavidez-President, Industrial Foundation, Commissioner Pct. 3- Eloy Garza, Judge Eloy Vera, Commissioner Pct. 4-Ruben D. Saenz and Representatives from DEGS Wind I, LLC and Duke Energy.

## JOB FAIR FOR FIRST WIND WARM:

Over 250 new jobs created. 300 more positions will be filled in the next few months:







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Public Relations and Marketing Director  
Starr County Courthouse Annex  
100 N. FM 3167  
Rio Grande City, Texas 78582  
Tel. (956) 7116-4800 Ext. 1010  
Email: cfuentesrgc@yahoo.com  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/starr-county-texas>

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