



3301 CARMEN AVE, 78575

Phone 956-350-4093

Fax 956-350-4156

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL MEETING

AUGUST 24, 2010

5:15 P.M.

NOTICE is hereby given of a SPECIAL MEETING of the BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS, to be held on AUGUST 24, 2010 at 5:15 P.M., in the TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 3301 CARMEN AVENUE, RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS to consider the following items:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Workshop on Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011
4. Adjourn

Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Administrator

Item #1:
Call to Order
by Mayor Medrano

Item #2:

Roll Call

by Isabel Perales, those present are:

Alderwoman Carr

Alderwoman Hager

Alderwoman Hinojosa

Alderman Lackner

Alderman Rafac

Legal Counsel, Daniel Rentfro, Jr.

Town Administrator, Cheryl J.

Kretz.

Item #3:

Workshop on Proposed
Budget for Fiscal Year
October 1, 2010 to
September 30, 2011

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$16,330 or 2.1360%, and of that amount \$8,177 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the roll this year.

PROPOSED
TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO
BUDGET

2010- 2011

| | | ACTUAL 12-MONTHS END 9/30/09 | APPROVED(2) BUDGET 2009/2010 | ACTUAL 9-MONTHS END 6/30/10 | BUDGET 2010/2011 | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| REVENUES: | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 1898.0000 Ad Val. Tax 1998 | 185.96 | | 0.00 | | | |
| 2 | 1810.9900 Ad Val. Tax 1999 | 168.98 | | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| 3 | 1810.2000 Ad Val. Tax 2000 | 292.64 | | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| 4 | 1810.2001 Ad Val. Tax 2001 | 341.78 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| 5 | 1810.2002 Ad Val. Tax 2002 | 394.02 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 | | |
| 6 | 1810.2003 Ad Val. Tax 2003 | 441.27 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 | | |
| 7 | 1810.2004 Ad Val. Tax 2004 | 497.00 | 300.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 | | |
| 8 | 1810.2005 Ad Val. Tax 2005 | 692.72 | 500.00 | 308.37 | 300.00 | | |
| 9 | 1810.2006 Ad Val. Tax 2006 | 4,812.17 | 2,000.00 | 833.47 | 500.00 | | |
| 10 | 1810.2007 Ad Val. Tax 2007 | 11,971.91 | 4,000.00 | 3,372.28 | 2,000.00 | | |
| 11 | 1810.2008 Ad Val. Tax 2008 | 711,723.42 | 13,500.00 | 13,198.17 | 4,000.00 | | |
| 12 | 1810.2009 Ad Val. Tax 2009 | | 744,653.00 (1) | 722,204.00 | 13,500.00 | | |
| 13 | 1810.2010 Ad Val. Tax 2010 | | | | 749,583.00 (3) | 801,042.00 | |
| 14 | 1820.0000 Adm. Cost Recovered | 17,825.04 | 5,000.00 | 2,966.66 | 3,300.00 | | |
| 15 | 1830.0000 Alcohol Beverage Tax | 2,396.07 | 2,500.00 | 1,837.71 | 2,500.00 | | |
| 16 | 1840.0000 Building Permits | 16,228.77 | 10,000.00 | 29,788.02 | 25,000.00 | | |
| 17 | 1850.0000 Citations & Fines | 146,151.37 | 140,000.00 | 103,866.04 | 120,000.00 | | |
| 18 | 1851.0000 MC Tech Fund | 4,998.22 | 5,000.00 | 2,137.44 | 5,000.00 | | |
| 19 | 1870.0000 Franchise - Electrical | 62,419.05 | 56,000.00 | 45,065.62 | 56,000.00 | | |
| 20 | 1880.0000 Franchise - Telephone | 8,793.91 | 8,000.00 | 6,345.41 | 8,000.00 | | |
| 21 | 1890.0000 Franchise - Cable TV | 32,880.93 | 34,000.00 | 25,742.02 | 34,000.00 | | |
| 22 | 1900.0000 Franchise - Gas | 830.60 | 800.00 | 308.04 | 800.00 | | |
| 23 | 1905.0000 Franchise - Solid Waste | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | | |
| 24 | 1910.0000 Interest from Investments | 5,367.68 | 7,000.00 | 1,483.47 | 2,000.00 | | |
| 25 | 1920.0000 P&I on Taxes | 13,415.75 | 13,000.00 | 9,268.58 | 13,000.00 | | |
| 26 | 1930.0000 Sales Tax | 55,533.15 | 58,000.00 | 34,450.03 | 46,500.00 | | |
| 27 | 1963.0000 Police Fund Income | 150.00 | 200.00 | 270.00 | 250.00 | | |
| 28 | 1964.0000 Paving Assessments | 510.96 | 2,000.00 | 905.51 | 1,000.00 | | |
| 29 | 2090.0000 Discount on Taxes | (15,141.15) | (15,000.00) | (15,874.62) | (16,000.00) | | |
| 30 | 2090.5000 State Costs & Fees | (55,154.39) | (55,000.00) | (39,550.53) | (46,000.00) | | |
| 31 | Lien Revenue | 2,727.66 | 2,500.00 | 3,340.59 | 3,500.00 | | |
| 32 | Section 11 | | 44,322.00 | 12,167.58 | 28,269.00 | \$32,000.00 | |
| 33 | Total Revenues | \$1,032,455.49 | \$1,084,575.00 | \$965,433.86 | \$1,058,302.00 | | |

34
35 (1) BASED ON TAX RATE OF \$.336457 for M&O Tax Rate
36 \$.030543 Debt Service Tax Rate
37 for a TOTAL TAX RATE of \$.367000 per \$100.00 Taxable Value and 97% Collections
38 RANCHO VIEJO'S TAXABLE VALUE FOR 2009/10 WAS \$209,178.146
39

40 (2) AS APPROVED AT 9/8/09 MEETING

41
42 (3) BASED ON TAX RATE OF \$.338195 for M&O Tax Rate
43 \$.028542 Debt Service Tax Rate
44 for a TOTAL TAX RATE of \$.366737 per \$100.00 Taxable Value and 96% Collections
45 RANCHO VIEJO'S TAXABLE VALUE FOR 2010/2011 IS \$212,909,054
46
47
48
49

| 50 | EXPENSES: | ACTUAL | APPROVED(2) | ACTUAL | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 51 | | 12-MONTHS | BUDGET | 9-MONTHS | BUDGET | |
| 52 | | END 9/30/09 | 2009/2010 | END 6/30/10 | 2010/2011 | |
| 53 | Administration: | | | | | |
| 54 | 2100.0000 Travel | 1,420.50 | 1,500.00 | 858.99 | 1,500.00 | |
| 55 | 2110.0000 Seminar & Education | 155.00 | 625.00 | 155.00 | 625.00 | |
| 56 | 2150.0000 Payroll - Admin. | 106,745.06 | 110,525.00 | 83,168.92 | 112,885.00 | 113,885.00 |
| 57 | 2160.0000 Retirement - Admin. | 10,606.66 | 11,400.00 | 8,607.09 | 14,011.00 | 14,130.00 |
| 58 | 2161.0000 S.S./Medicare | 1,436.32 | 6,825.00 | 19,635.96 | 6,243.00 | 6,282.00 |
| 59 | 2170.0000 Insurance Medical | 8,491.63 | 7,580.00 | 5,684.40 | 8,425.00 | |
| 60 | 2180.0000 Insurance Life | 135.12 | 240.00 | 101.34 | 240.00 | |
| 61 | 2190.0000 Ins. Workman's Comp | 200.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 | |
| 62 | 2200.0000 Contract Labor | 12,924.72 | 18,720.00 | 7,279.50 | 10,000.00 | |
| 63 | | | | | | |
| 64 | Total Administration | \$142,115.01 | \$157,615.00 | \$125,691.20 | \$154,129.00 | |
| 65 | | | | | | |
| 66 | General: | | | | | |
| 67 | 3140.0000 Telephone | 3,862.61 | 4,000.00 | 2,459.70 | 4,000.00 | |
| 68 | 3150.0000 Electricity Office | 12,733.79 | 11,000.00 | 7,128.72 | 10,000.00 | |
| 69 | 3160.0000 Insurance Liability | 17,372.38 | 18,000.00 | 19,221.73 | 17,550.00 | 18,976.00 |
| 70 | 3170.0000 Legal Notices | 8,738.28 | 7,300.00 | 1,290.20 | 5,000.00 | |
| 71 | 3190.0000 Printing | 152.60 | 600.00 | 30.00 | 300.00 | |
| 72 | 3200.0000 Office Supplies | 4,874.62 | 5,000.00 | 2,038.14 | 5,000.00 | |
| 73 | 3210.0000 Office Equipment | 193.80 | 1,500.00 | 1,376.22 | 2,000.00 | |
| 74 | 3220.0000 Postage | 1,127.59 | 1,200.00 | 1,656.08 | 2,000.00 | |
| 75 | 3230.0000 Dues & Publications | 807.00 | 1,000.00 | 806.00 | 1,000.00 | |
| 76 | 3240.0000 Appraisal & Tax Coll. | 14,928.99 | 16,000.00 | 13,818.72 | 16,553.00 | |
| 77 | 3250.0000 Water | 685.80 | 700.00 | 583.41 | 700.00 | |
| 78 | 3260.0000 Election Costs | 4,146.48 | 4,100.00 | 0.00 | 4,100.00 | |
| 79 | 3270.0000 Building Maintenance | 14,635.42 | 9,000.00 | 3,778.13 | 9,000.00 | |
| 80 | 3280.0000 Cameron Co.Court Costs | 200.00 | 200.00 | 995.00 | 1,200.00 | |
| 81 | 3300.0000 Public Relations | 3,543.14 | 2,625.00 | 1,078.87 | 2,500.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 82 | 3320.0000 Office Equip. Maint. | 12,306.07 | 11,000.00 | 8,942.96 | 11,000.00 | |
| 83 | 3321.0000 Ordinance Codification | 0.00 | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 84 | 4220.0000 Municipal Court Supplies | 146.29 | 300.00 | 162.85 | 200.00 | |
| 85 | | | | | | |
| 86 | Total General | \$100,454.86 | \$95,525.00 | \$65,366.73 | \$92,103.00 | |
| 87 | | | | | | |
| 88 | Police General: | | | | | |
| 89 | 4140.0000 Clothing - Police | 2,956.18 | 9,079.00 | 7,171.95 | 3,500.00 | 4,000.00 |
| 90 | 4150.0000 Payroll - Police | 295,859.78 | 297,962.00 | 230,773.89 | 317,714.00 | 321,214.00 |
| 91 | 4160.0000 Police Ret & Empl. Tax | 29,318.36 | 30,484.00 | 23,904.59 | 39,256.00 | 39,673.00 |
| 92 | 4161.0000 Medicare & S.S. | 7,085.31 | 7,831.00 | 6,654.03 | 8,118.00 | 8,200.00 |
| 93 | 4170.0000 Ins. Medical | 28,916.25 | 26,527.00 | 19,895.40 | 29,486.00 | |
| 94 | 4171.0000 Ins. Medical Dependat | 3,545.64 | 3,298.00 | 2,336.31 | 7,323.00 | |
| 95 | 4180.0000 Ins. Life | 473.98 | 550.00 | 364.77 | 550.00 | |
| 96 | 4190.0000 Ins. Workman's Comp | 6,430.36 | 8,820.00 | 7,400.32 | 7,400.00 | 8,261.00 |
| 97 | 4200.0000 Cleaning of Uniforms | 3,308.61 | 3,780.00 | 2,634.97 | 3,780.00 | |
| 98 | 4210.0000 Office Supplies | 3,444.43 | 3,500.00 | 3,745.86 | 15,500.00 | |
| 99 | 4210.5000 Printing | 600.00 | 600.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 300.00 |
| 100 | 4230.0000 Travel - Police | 0.00 | 600.00 | 245.77 | 600.00 | |
| 101 | 4240.0000 Seminar & Education - PD | 854.02 | 3,000.00 | 996.28 | 3,000.00 | |
| 102 | 4250.0000 Auto Repairs | 7,457.36 | 11,000.00 | 10,593.01 | 6,500.00 | 8,000.00 |
| 103 | 4260.0000 Auto Fuel | 16,322.60 | 27,000.00 | 15,575.19 | 23,400.00 | 24,750.00 |
| 104 | 4300.0000 Radio Equip. Maint. | 1,598.43 | 1,600.00 | 1,325.92 | 1,600.00 | |
| 105 | 4310.0000 Police Contract Labor | 21,011.50 | 18,500.00 | 14,564.00 | 18,500.00 | |
| 106 | 4330.0000 Dispatch | 5,878.56 | 6,300.00 | 2,515.60 | 3,810.00 | 6,930.00 |
| 107 | 4331.0000 Police Investigation | 3,393.38 | 3,496.00 | 3,337.46 | 3,496.00 | |
| 108 | 4333.0000 Drug Testing | 225.00 | 450.00 | 0.00 | 450.00 | |
| 109 | | | | | | |
| 110 | Total Police General | \$438,679.75 | \$464,377.00 | \$354,035.32 | \$493,983.00 | |

| | | ACTUAL | APPROVED(2) | ACTUAL | BUDGET | |
|-----|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | | 12-MONTHS | BUDGET | 9-MONTHS | BUDGET | |
| | | END 9/30/09 | 2009/2010 | END 6/30/10 | 2010/2011 | |
| 113 | | | | | | |
| 114 | | | | | | |
| 115 | | | | | | |
| 116 | Police Capital: | | | | | |
| 117 | | | | | | |
| 118 | 25131.0000 Automobile | 15,956.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 20,102.00 |
| 119 | Automobile Reserve | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 120 | 25131.0500 Automobile Equipment | 2,404.00 | 2,600.00 | 2,232.39 | 6,770.00 | |
| 121 | 25131.3000 Auto Equip. Reserve | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 122 | 4290.0000 Communication Equip. | 19,622.96 | 20,000.00 | 20,774.80 | 18,586.00 | 20,000.00 |
| 123 | 4291.0000 Fire Prevention/1st Aid | 156.40 | 300.00 | 164.00 | 300.00 | |
| 124 | 4291.6220 Hurricane Preparedness | 72,339.13 | 1,500.00 | 1,150.00 | 1,500.00 | |
| 125 | Computers | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 126 | | | | | | |
| 127 | Total Police Capital | \$110,478.49 | \$24,400.00 | \$24,321.19 | \$27,156.00 | |
| 128 | General Service: | | | | | |
| 129 | | | | | | |
| 130 | 5600.0000 Ambulance | 10,277.00 | 10,277.00 | 7,707.75 | 10,277.00 | |
| 131 | 5650.0000 Fire Dept. | 10,636.15 | 15,400.00 | 6,869.69 | 13,800.00 | 15,400.00 |
| 132 | 5660.0000 Fire Protection Contract | 27,500.00 | 27,500.00 | 20,625.00 | 27,500.00 | |
| 133 | 5900.0000 Refuse Disposal | 192.96 | 203.00 | 202.59 | 230.00 | |
| 134 | | | | | | |
| 135 | Total General Service | \$48,606.11 | \$53,380.00 | \$35,405.03 | \$51,807.00 | |
| 136 | Professional: | | | | | |
| 137 | | | | | | |
| 138 | 5100.0000 Legal Fees | 25,875.00 | 24,750.00 | 18,000.00 | 24,750.00 | |
| 139 | 5200.0000 Audit Fees | 6,100.00 | 6,405.00 | 6,405.00 | 6,600.00 | |
| 140 | 5400.0000 Bldg. Inspection | 7,410.62 | 7,500.00 | 3,475.27 | 7,000.00 | |
| 141 | 5500.0000 Municipal Judge | 10,643.96 | 9,650.00 | 7,381.30 | 9,650.00 | 10,580.00 |
| 142 | | | | | | |
| 143 | Total Professional | \$50,029.58 | \$48,305.00 | \$35,261.57 | \$48,000.00 | |
| 144 | Public Works: | | | | | |
| 145 | | | | | | |
| 146 | 6000.0000 St. Rehab. | 440,553.16 | 10,000.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | |
| 147 | 6100.0000 St. Rehab. Reserve | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 148 | 6200.0000 St. Rehab. Engineer | 33,901.84 | 3,000.00 | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | |
| 149 | 6300.0000 Signs & Safety Markers | 2,529.61 | 2,750.00 | 2,024.60 | 2,750.00 | |
| 150 | 6400.0000 Lighting Installation | 0.00 | 5,000.00 | 1,670.88 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 |
| 151 | 6500.0000 Lighting Expenses | 54,007.23 | 51,000.00 | 37,139.47 | 51,000.00 | |
| 152 | 6600.0000 Lot Mowing | 1,370.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,990.00 | 4,000.00 | |
| 153 | 6640.0000 Common Area Maint. | 43,050.00 | 41,040.00 | 28,755.00 | 38,000.00 | |
| 154 | 6700.0000 Comm Area Water&Elec. | 16,906.54 | 15,000.00 | 5,147.23 | 7,000.00 | |
| 155 | 6710.0000 Mosquito Spraying | -562.50 | 4,040.00 | 2,463.75 | 4,040.00 | |
| 156 | Solar Lighting | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 157 | Grant Reserve | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 158 | Park Purchase | 10,200.09 | 13,600.00 | 10,200.09 | 3,240.00 | |
| 159 | Beautification Project | 4,217.00 | 20,000.00 | 25,324.20 | 0.00 | |
| 160 | SECO Project | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,046.00 | |
| 161 | | | | | | |
| 162 | Total Public Works | \$606,172.97 | \$167,930.00 | \$115,715.22 | \$124,076.00 | |
| 163 | | | | | | |
| 164 | Total Operating Expense | \$1,496,536.77 | \$1,011,532.00 | \$755,796.26 | \$991,254.00 | |
| 165 | Town Hall Debt Service Account: | | | | | |
| 166 | | | | | | |
| 167 | Interest Payable | \$35,768.75 | \$34,387.50 | 33,783.34 | \$29,555.14 | |
| 168 | Scheduled Principal | \$25,000.00 | \$30,000.00 | 30,604.16 | \$30,000.00 | |
| 169 | | | | | | |
| 170 | Total Debt Service | \$60,768.75 | \$64,387.50 | 64,387.50 | \$59,555.14 | |
| 171 | | | | | | |
| 172 | Total All Expenses | \$1,557,305.52 | \$1,075,919.50 | \$820,183.76 | \$1,050,809.14 | |
| 173 | Total Revenues | \$1,032,455.49 | \$1,084,575.00 | \$965,433.86 | \$1,058,302.00 | |
| 174 | | | | | | |
| 175 | To General Fund | -\$524,850.03 | \$8,655.50 | \$145,250.10 | \$7,492.86 | |

176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209

GENERAL INFORMATION

ESTIMATED YEAR END BANK BALANCE AT 9/30/10

| | |
|---|--------------|
| General Fund Bank Balance as of 6/30/10 | \$443,680.08 |
| June Tax Money Deposited in July | \$1,073.95 |
| Plus Estimated Revenue from 7/01/10 to 9/30/10 | \$119,141.14 |
| Less Estimated Operating Expenses from 7/01/10 to 9/30/10 | \$255,698.84 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Estimated Bank Balance at 9/30/10 | \$308,196.33 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|

*Within the Year End Bank Balance; funds are earmarked for the following purposes:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Three months Operating Reserve @ 91M per month | \$273,000.00 |
| Camera Reserve, Vehicle Reserve and Beautification Reserve | \$35,196.33 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Earmarked Funds Equal Estimated Bank Balance at 9/30/10: | \$308,196.33 |
|--|--------------|

| | |
|--|------------|
| At Fiscal Year End 9/30/09 Bank Balance was: | 333,641.97 |
|--|------------|

ADDITIONAL TOWN BANK BALANCES AS OF 6/30/10:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Town Hall Debt Service Account Balance | \$0.08 |
| Police Asset Forfeiture Account Balance | \$3,380.12 |

Item #4:
Adjourn



3301 CARMEN AVE, 78575

Phone 956-350-4093

Fax 956-350-4156

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL MEETING

AUGUST 24, 2010
6:00 P.M.

NOTICE is hereby given of a SPECIAL MEETING of the BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS, to be held on AUGUST 24, 2010 at 6:00 P.M., in the TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 3301 CARMEN AVENUE, RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS to consider the following items:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation and Pledge
4. Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011 (The final approval of the budget is set for September 14, 2010)
5. Public Hearing on Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate Increase
6. Establish Date, Time, and Place of Meeting to Vote on the Ad Valorem Tax Rate
7. Adjourn


Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Administrator

Item #1:
Call to Order
by Mayor Medrano

Item #2:

Roll Call

by Isabel Perales, those present are:

Aldерwoman Carr

Aldерwoman Hager

Aldерwoman Hinojosa

Alderman Lackner

Alderman Rafac

Legal Counsel, Daniel Rentfro, Jr.

Town Administrator, Cheryl J.
Kretz.

Item #3:

Invocation and Pledge

The pledge of allegiance for the United States Flag:

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

And the pledge of allegiance for the Texas State Flag is,

“Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

Item #4:

Public Hearing on Proposed
Budget for Fiscal Year

October 1, 2010 to

September 30, 2011 (The
final approval of the budget

is set for September 14,
2010)

Item #5:

Public Hearing on Proposed
Ad Valorem Tax Rate
Increase

Item #6:

Establish Date, Time and
Place of Meeting to Vote on
the Ad Valorem Tax Rate

Meeting to vote on the
Ad Valorem Tax Rate -
September 14, 2010

Item #7:
Adjourn

From: l_nunez77@yahoo.com
To: ckretz@ranchoviejotexas.com
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2010 4:08pm
Subject: Contact form email from www.ranchoviejotexas.com

Name: Lily Garcia
Email: l_nunez77@yahoo.com

Questions/Comments:

Hello,
My husband and I were stopped this afternoon by one of your Police Officers..
I want to let your City know that you have a very professional Officer in your Police department..
You always hear the bad thing Officers do, I just want to change that ..
So thank you Officer Hernandez, for a job well done... Keep up the good work..

August 6, 2010

Dear Chief Cruz,

My husband and I want to thank you, your department, and especially Officer Lerma for the very professional manner in which we were helped two Sundays ago. At about 4:45 a.m., our doorbell rang. Everyone knows how frightening that can be, but when we opened the door, Officer Lerma very calmly said that he didn't want to alarm us, but that the Coast Guard had informed the Rancho Viejo police department that our son-in-law's boat was found in the middle of the bay going in circles. No one was on the boat. He told us that the Coast Guard had tried to reach my son-in-law at home, but there was no answer, so they had contacted the Rancho police. Officer Lerma went to our daughter's home, and when he found no one home, he came to our house. My daughter and her family were spending the weekend at the Island and we knew that her husband and our grandsons were going fishing on the boat early that morning, so despite what Officer Lerma said, we were alarmed. We immediately called the beach house and we were immensely relieved when they answered the phone and we knew that they were all safe. I won't go into all the specifics, but we subsequently learned that the boat was apparently taken and left running in the bay. The whole incident had a happy ending—everyone was safe, the boat was returned undamaged with no items missing, and we all agreed that we feel more secure than ever knowing that while we are sleeping, there are competent people keeping us safe. We cannot compliment the Coast Guard and Officer Lerma enough for their diligence and professionalism.

Thank you for all that you do, and forgive us for taking so long to express our appreciation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosie".

Luke and Rosie Fruia

To: Police Chief M. Cruz Jr.

From: Al Skorupa
48 Alvarado
Rancho Viejo

I have been a resident of Rancho Viejo for twenty-three years. During that period I have had little interface with our police department, until several weeks ago. I had fallen ill in my bedroom. Weighing 250 pounds and 80 years old, my wife could not help me off the floor. She called the police for help. Officer A. Huerta came to the rescue. He not only helped me up, but also convinced me I should seek answers to my problem in the hospital. He called the paramedics and my daughter in San Antonio to reassure her I would be OK and a trip here was not necessary at this time.

I spent a week in the hospital during which time a trap we had set up caught an opossum. My wife did not know what to do with it, so she again called the police department. Again Officer Huerta took the trap and relocated the animal to a refuge, not once, but twice.

It is very reassuring to live in an area with a professional and effective police department, with caring police officers like Officer Huerta. If I may, I would highly recommend Officer A. Huerta for any promotional opportunities that may come his way. He certainly deserves them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Skorupa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Al Skorupa

Copy To: Mayor R. Medrano
Officer A Huerta