

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Richard D. Wiles, Sheriff Sylvia Aguilar, Chief Deputy

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We Serve with Pride

Administration 3850 Justice Drive 14 Past. Texas 79938 915-538-2217 915-538-2028 Jax

Job Line 915-546-2286

Region VIII Training Academy 12501 Moriana Avenue El Paso, Texas 79938 915-856-4880 015-856-4883 Jus

Criminal Investigations Bureau 850 Justice Drive 11 Paso, Texas 70938 915-538-2291 915-538-2-48 Jus

Detention Bureau 601 Fast Overland El Paso, Texas 79961 915-546-2228 915-543-3810 fax

Jail Annex Bureau 12501 Montara Avenue El Paso, Tevas 79938 915-856-4800 915-856-4849 Jux

Patrol Bureau Traffic Division 3850 Justice Drive El Paso, Texas 79938 915-538-2210 915-538-2212 fex

Montana Station 12501 Montana Avenue FI Pago, Pexas 79938 915-856-4875 915-856-4896 fets

Vinton Station 4.36 Last Vinton Votton, Texas 70838 915-886-2724 915-886-3109 fax

Special Operations Bureau 6825 Cielo Vista Drive, Box 4 If Pase, Texas 79925

Metro Narcotics Task Force 915-772-8865 915-773-0369 lex

HIDT'A Enterprise Task Force 915-832-6011 915-832-6256 fev

Volunteer Program 3850 Justice Drive 10 Paso, Texas 74038 915-538-2117 915-538-2028 fee

Emergency 911 Nan-Emergency 546-2280 July 13, 2009

Honorable Mayor and City Representatives City of El Paso, Texas #2 Civic Center Plaza El Paso, Texas 79901

Dear Mayor and Representatives:

As you may know, during my tenure as El Paso Chief of Police, in 2007 I was presented the opportunity to testify before the Texas Department of Transportation regarding digital billboards. At that time, I had been working with Clear Channel Outdoor to display Amber Alert and similar messages in El Paso on the digital billboards that were in place. I saw this as an opportunity to bring to El Paso a dynamic method of informing the traveling public about items of critical interest to our community.

I testified to the Texas Transportation Commission that I had no concerns whatsoever that digital billboards presented a safety hazard to El Paso residents. My duty as Chief of Police would prevent me from allowing, much less enthusiastically endorsing, anything that I believed would place our citizenry at risk. In addition to my own, I brought Mayor Cook's endorsement of the digital billboards to the Commission.

I had, and to this day still have, no indication that digital billboards pose any safety threat to the traveling public. With the number of digital signs that are currently in El Paso, both of the business and billboard type, and the long time in which they have been present in our City, any safety issues surely would have surfaced by now. Those in El Paso who claim there are safety problems with the digital billboards are ignoring the evidence.

In closing, when operated as Clear Channel is currently, digital billboards are an asset to El Paso. I endorse their use and respectfully request the City Council to prudently allow more to be erected.

Richard D. Wiles

Sheriff

Sincerely,



First Nationally Accredited Sheriff's Office in Texas First Two Nationally Accredited County Jails in Texas

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