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Bexar County’s Efforts In Outreach Recognized in State of Texas Disparity Study

Bexar County Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez and Commissioners Court were recognized for its high level business outreach Program. The recently published Texas Disparity Study 2009 compiled a benchmarking and best practices chapter and illustrated Bexar County among those taking the lead on a national level in its efforts toward business outreach.

“I have worked diligently with Renee Watson, Director of the Small Minority Women and Veteran’s Business Owners Program for the County to ensure we continue to reaffirm our commitment to connect these specific business owners who are ready and able to fulfill procurement and business needs,” said Bexar County Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez. “It is so crucial to develop relationships, acquire knowledge, and access opportunities that exist within the public and private sector.”

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts retained MGT of America in 2008 to perform an independent study to determine if there is still a need for Texas programs tailored to provide assistance for Historically Underutilized Businesses as set forth by the 1989 United States Supreme Court case *Richmond v. Croson*, 488 U.S. 469. During the study, a comprehensive review of how Texas utilizes HUB programs was evaluated in an effort to determine any program development options. The 2009 Disparity Study assessed the affects of race and gender based initiatives in Texas to redress the ongoing influences of past discrimination in the marketplace.

All state agencies were included in the Study. For results of the Study, visit the Texas Comptrollers website at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/disparity>