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Bexar County Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez Cuts Ribbon on San Antonio College First Responders Academy

Bexar County Commissioner Sergio “Chico” Rodriguez joined San Antonio College President Dr. Robert Ziegler, Alamo Colleges Chancellor Dr. Bruce Leslie, Alamo Colleges Board of Trustees Chairman, Denver McClendon, San Antonio College Dean of Professional, Technical Education Vernell Walker, and San Antonio Fire



Department Chief Charles Hood in cutting the ribbon to celebrate Phase I of the First Responders Academy. This state of the art 60-acre facility located within Precinct 1 of South Bexar County will serve as an essential fire and rescue training facility for SAC students and emergency workers from across the region.



Commissioner Chico Rodriguez presented a Proclamation on behalf of Bexar County Commissioners Court to show support of the efforts placed by SAC and the Alamo Colleges for the integration of curriculum to offer Associates of Applied Science Degrees in Fire Science, Fire Arson Investigation, Homeland Security, and Emergency Management Administration. More than

80 percent of the nation’s First Responders receive their training at community colleges. This new training site includes a three story burn tower for firefighters to practice repelling technique and driver training, and areas for water and hazardous materials rescue exercises.

In 2008, the Alamo Colleges voted to allocate \$3.4 million to initiate development and construction for the First Responders Academy as a response to the loss of accessibility for another training facility.

“This First Responders Academy is extremely important for our community”, said Commissioner Chico Rodriguez. “The men and women who will receive training here are the ones who rush out to emergencies when there is a need and we need to ensure they receive first class training at a first class facility. I could not be more proud it is housed in Precinct 1.”