

LAREDO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

POSITION STATEMENT  
SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF AN ETHICS COMMISSION  
BY THE CITY OF LAREDO

Given that the citizenry of the city of Laredo approved by passage of an amendment to the City Charter in a special election held in November of 2006 the establishment of a Code of Ethics and the creation of an Ethics Commission to “review and recommend standards of conduct and to investigate all allegations of violations of the code;” and being that by design stated commission will deal with conflicts of interest or inferences of impropriety for both City elected officials and members of the staff;

The Board of Directors of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce hereby supports action taken by the City Council in appointing an Ad Hoc Committee to develop an ethics code that will recognize the fair, honest and just system the City was developed under and establishes a means to prevent, eliminate and sanction individuals who fail to honor the system and tarnish the city’s good name and reputation.

Given recent developments within the Laredo Police Department, the Utilities Department and the Bridge Department of the city of Laredo involving members of the staff which have resulted in indictments, the Board further urges City Council to provide this Ad Hoc Committee with all necessary resources to act swiftly and expeditiously in achieving this task.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December of 2007.

*Rick Valls*

RICK VALLS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD