Extension Education delivers...

Statewide network, local outreach
Extension educators, specialists, and trained volunteers serving all 254 Texas counties

Practical programs
valuable learning experiences and skills training for adults and youth

Expertise
proven solutions from trusted experts and scientific research

Resource partnerships
joint efforts that leverage funding, increase impact, and prevent duplication of services

To learn more about Extension Education and the return on your county's investment, visit AgriLifeExtension.tamu.edu/impacts
Meeting the Educational Needs of Texas County Officials Since 1969
59th Annual V.G. Young School for County Commissioners Courts

RENAISSANCE HOTEL | Austin, TX
February 8 – 10, 2017

V.G. Young Institute of County Government Staff

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WELCOME LETTER

On behalf of the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, part of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, welcome to the 59th Annual School for County Commissioners Courts. We are pleased to offer the annual school as an opportunity where you can expand your knowledge and develop critical networks, all in an effort to better serve your respective county and her constituents.

I would like to thank the many people who have aided in planning and conducting this conference, as well as the many speakers that will serve as the school faculty.

I offer a special word of appreciation to the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas and the Texas Association of Counties for their continued partnership in offering high quality, relevant educational information to County Commissioners Courts.

Finally, thank you to the sponsors, donors, and exhibitors of this year’s school. Their generosity enables us to conduct this educational event.

We hope you have a great experience while in Austin and look forward to seeing you again at the 60th Annual School in 2018 held in College Station. If you need anything please let a member of our staff know and we would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Peter J. McGuill, Ph.D.
Director, V.G. Young Institute of County Government
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
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SCHOOL HOST
Welcome! The 59th Annual V.G Young School for County Commissioners Courts is sponsored as a program of the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Continuing education hours will be available to individuals participating in the conference.

SCHOOL INFORMATION
- Keep personal belongings with you at all times.
- Please silence pagers and cellphones, and refrain from taking calls during sessions.
- Out of respect to speakers, there is a strict adherence to the time schedule.
- Visit the Institute’s website (https://vgyi.tamu.edu) to download authorized School handouts and presentations available after the conference.

COMMISSIONERS COURT PHOTOGRAPHS
Complimentary Commissioners Courts photographs will be taken on February 9, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Bosque Room.

EVALUATIONS
Evaluations are in the attendee packet. Please complete and drop the Institute Copy at the Registration desk no later than noon on Friday, February 10, 2017.

RENAISSANCE AUSTIN HOTEL
- Check in: 4:00 p.m.
- Check out: 11:00 a.m.
- Wi-Fi: Conference attendees have complimentary Wi-Fi in their rooms. Check with the front desk regarding access.

DINING AT THE HOTEL
Both options are open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Knotty Deck & Bar (American Cuisine)
- Austinbytes (deli)

LOCAL CONTACTS
- Renaissance Austin Hotel: 512-343-2626
- Emergency Assistance: 911

2018 SCHOOL FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURTS
The 2018 School for County Commissioners Courts will be held in College Station, Texas February 20 – 22, 2018.
EXHIBIT SHOW

The Exhibit Show is open Wednesday, February 8th from 1:00 – 3:00 pm and Thursday, February 9th from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm in the Rio Grande Exhibit Hall located on the Plaza Level (lower level). Please take time throughout the conference to visit with exhibitors.

COMMISSIONERS COURT LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY ALUMNI SESSION

A special session of the Commissioners Court Leadership Academy Alumni will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 from 3:15 – 5:00 p.m. in the Brazos Room.

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

The Texas Association of Counties and
The County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas
cordially invite you to a

Legislative Reception

honoring members of the 85th Texas Legislature.

February 8, 2017
5:30pm-7:30pm
Capitol Extension Building
Capitol Legislative Conference Center
Room – E2.002 A

Transportation will be provided.
Buses will leave the Renaissance Hotel at 5:15pm and 5:30pm.
Buses will leave the Capitol for the Renaissance Hotel at 6:30pm, 7pm and 7:15pm.
Please keep in mind, each guest will walk through a metal detector at the Capitol.
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Wednesday, February 8, 2017
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Registration Open
Atrium/Lobby Level Registration
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.  CJCAT Education Committee Meeting
Nueces
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.  Exhibitor Show Open
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
1:00 - 1:15 p.m.  Opening General Session
Grand Ballroom A
1:15 - 2:05 p.m.  Energy Priorities - 85th Legislative Session
Grand Ballroom A
2:05 - 2:55 p.m.  3.001 Texas Open Meetings Act: Maintaining Public Trust
Grand Ballroom A
2:55 - 3:15 p.m.  Refreshment Break
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
Concurrent Sessions
Grand Ballroom A  CCAC Phase 2
3:15 - 4:05 p.m.  2.004 District Clerk
4:10 - 5:00 p.m.  2.012 County Auditor
Grand Ballroom B  CCAC Phase 3
3:15 - 4:05 p.m.  4.002 Negotiating Technology Contracts
4:10 - 5:00 p.m.  4.009 Financial Accounting Basics
Wedgewood  Judges and Commissioners
Administrative Training
3:15 - 5:00 p.m.  The Rationale for Public Private Partnerships (PPPS): Working with the Private Sector
Brazos  Commissioners Court Leadership
Academy Alumni Session
3:15 - 5:00 p.m.  The Reality of Change: It's A Balancing Act  Open to CCLA Alumni Only
5:30 p.m.  Legislative Reception
Thursday, February 9, 2017
7:00 - 8:30 a.m.  Breakfast
Atrium Level
7:00 - 8:00 a.m.  Commissioners Court Leadership
Nueces
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Registration Open
Atrium/Lobby Level Registration
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  Exhibitor Show Open
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
9:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.  Commissioners Court Complimentary Photographs
Bosque
8:00 - 8:50 a.m.  Legislative Update
Grand Ballroom A
8:50 - 9:40 a.m.  Legislative Panel
Grand Ballroom A
9:40 - 10:10 a.m.  Refreshment Break
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
10:10 - 11:00 a.m.  Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team
Grand Ballroom A
11:00 - 11:50 a.m.  4.018 Terrorism Prevention: Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events
Grand Ballroom A
Thursday, February 9, 2017 (Cont.)
11:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.  County Partnership Task Force Luncheon
Luncheon by invitation only
2:55 - 3:20 p.m.  Refreshment Break
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
Concurrent Sessions
Grand Ballroom A  CCAC Phase 2
1:15 - 2:05 p.m.  2.011 Constable
2:05 - 2:55 p.m.  2.008 County Attorney
3:20 - 4:10 p.m.  2.002 County Commissioner
4:10 - 5:00 p.m.  2.007 County Sheriff
Grand Ballroom B  Commissioner Session
1:15 - 2:05 p.m.  After Disaster Strikes: Coordinating Response and Working with Partners
Are They Ready? Preparing Staff to Respond to Emergencies
3:20 - 4:10 p.m.  Roadway Vegetation Control
Asphalt Pavement Mix Types
4:10 - 5:00 p.m.  Refreshment Break
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
Wedgewood  Judicial Training
1:15 - 2:15 p.m.  Inquests
2:15 - 3:15 p.m.  Guardianship Visitors Program
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Update
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.  DWI Bond Schematic Moderated Discussion
Dinner on Your Own
Friday, February 10, 2017
8:00 - 11:30 a.m.  Registration Open
Atrium/Lobby Level Registration
Concurrent Sessions
Grand Ballroom A  CCAC Phase 2
8:20 - 9:10 a.m.  2.001 County Judge
9:10 - 10:00 a.m.  2.014 Extension Service
Grand Ballroom B  CCAC Phase 3
8:20 - 9:10 a.m.  3.019 Subdivision Regulations
9:10 - 10:00 a.m.  3.002 Commissions and Committees:
Compliance Assistance from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Wedgewood  Administrative Training
8:20 - 9:10 a.m.  Every Day Leadership
9:10 - 10:00 a.m.  Strategies for Managing a Multi-Generational Team
10:00 - 10:20 a.m.  Atrium Break
10:20 - 11:10 a.m.  4.004 County Purchasing: Lessons Learned in Procurement of Design and Construction
11:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  4.014 Ethics in Public Office
AGENDA & CLASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 8, 2017
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration Open
Atrium/Lobby Level Registration

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. CJCAT Education Committee Meeting
Nueces

1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Exhibitor Show Open
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall

GENERAL SESSION
Grand Ballroom A

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. Call to Order and Announcement
Peter McGuill
Director, V.G. Young Institute of County Government, Texas A&M Extension Service

Invocation: Kamry Keese, McCulloch County 4-H
Flag Bearers: Christian Dieterich, Denton County 4-H; and Bennett Folsom, Travis County 4-H
National Pledge: Marcelle Cooke, Hemphill County 4-H
National Anthem: Ava Lea, Travis County 4-H
Thank you/Comments: Kodye Neel, Refugio County 4-H

Hon. Woodrow “Woody” Gossom
President, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas

Hon. Bill McCay
President, West Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

Hon. Everett “Bo” Alfred
President, North and East Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

Hon. Ben Zeller
President, South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association

1:15 – 2:05 p.m. Energy Priorities – 85th Legislative Session
Todd Staples, President, Texas Oil and Gas Association
Texas is an oil and natural gas state. As the 85th Legislature convenes, the Texas energy industry will encourage lawmakers to look closely at policies that make Texas a great place to do business and to stay the course.
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 (cont.)

2:05 – 2:55 p.m.  
Grand Ballroom A  
3.001 Texas Open Meetings Act: Maintaining Public Trust  
Zack Wavrusa, Felony District Chief, Rusk County and District Attorney’s Office  
The Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) should be a familiar piece of legislation to every person elected to office in your county. This presentation will serve as a primer to the minimum requirements of TOMA, its various exceptions, including what to do in an emergency situation, and a discussion on the best practices for providing notice of public meetings. Poor attempts at humor will be interspersed throughout.

2:55 – 3:15 p.m.  
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall  
Refreshment Break  
Sponsored by: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent Professional Association

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CCAC Phase 2  
Grand Ballroom A  
3:15 – 4:05 p.m.  
2.004 District Clerk  
Hon. Mark Hamlin, Brazos County District Clerk  
The audience will learn about the responsibilities of the office of District Clerk, one elected official to another.

4:10 – 5:00 p.m.  
2.012 County Auditor  
Hon. Nathan Cradduck, Tom Green County Auditor  
An overview of the duties, authority, and responsibilities of the County Auditor will be provided

CCAC Phase 3  
Grand Ballroom B  
3:15 – 4:05 p.m.  
4.002 Negotiating Technology Contracts  
Syd Falk, Partner, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP  
This session will help attendees identify the issues to look for in technology contracts, including cloud computing and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) agreements. Discussion will include: data ownership, protection, security, backup, and access issues; data migration; services descriptions and warranties; when licenses are important; copyright issues and ownership of work product; indemnity; technology escrow; dispute resolution; and other common provisions.
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 (cont.)

4:10 – 5:00 p.m.  4.009 Financial Accounting Basics

*Hon. Donna Thornton, Wharton County Treasurer*

Attendees will discuss and analyze the differences in governmental and private sector accounting and reporting. The governmental accounting model will be broken down so participants can gain a better understanding of its framework, including examples of its application in local government.

3:15 – 5:00 p.m.  Judges and Commissioners Administrative Training

*Wedgewood*

The Rationale for Public Private Partnerships (PPPS):

*Working with the Private Sector*

*Jennifer Hara, Director, The Institute for Public Private Partnerships,*

*a Tetra Tech company; and*

*Nancy Belinsky, Vice President Legal and General Counsel of SAWS*

What are the infrastructure priorities in your county? Do you know how you are going to finance them? This session will walk through the basics of what public private partnerships (PPP / P3) are and lessons learned through sharing case studies of successful projects.

3:15 – 5:00 p.m.  Commissioners Court Leadership Academy Alumni Session

*Brazos*

The Reality of Change: It’s A Balancing Act – Open to CCLA Alumni Only

*Chris Boleman, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

Leading in a changing environment requires an understanding of the past while maintaining a vision of the future. Come learn more about this balancing act.

5:30 p.m.  Legislative Reception

*Capitol Extension Building*

*Capitol Legislative Conference Center Room – E2.002 A*

Shuttles will begin departing from the Renaissance at 5:15 p.m. See insert in your participant packet for a map of the conference center.
Thursday, February 9, 2017

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.  Breakfast
Atrium Level
Sponsored by: Election Systems & Software

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.  Commissioner Court Leadership Academy Breakfast
Nueces
Invitation Only

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Registration Open
Atrium/Lobby Level Registration

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  Exhibitor Show Open
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.  Commissioners Court Complimentary Photographs
Bosque

8:00 – 8:50 a.m.  Legislative Update
Grand Ballroom A
Jim Allison, Allison Bass & Magee, LLP
An overview of the current status of the 85th Legislature will be given with particular focus on items important to counties.

8:50 – 9:40 a.m.  Legislative Panel
Grand Ballroom A
Invited Representatives

9:40 – 10:10 a.m.  Refreshment Break
Rio Grande Exhibit Hall
Sponsored by: McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, PC

10:10 – 11:00 a.m.  Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team
Grand Ballroom A
Russell Marshall, TEMAT Coordinator, Texas Department of Public Safety; and
Nim Kidd, Assistant Director, Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas Department of Public Safety
The Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team is the forward response and recovery team for the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Division of Emergency Management, comprised of local subject matter experts assisting jurisdictions during times of disaster and large scale incidents or events.

11:00 – 11:50 a.m.  4.018 Terrorism Prevention: Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events
Grand Ballroom A
John Curnutt, Director of Training, Texas State University ALERRT Program
This presentation will highlight the challenges faced by people involved in the initial moments of a mass-casualty attack. An overview of response options will be covered.
**AGENDA & CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Thursday, February 9, 2017 (cont.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:50 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch on Your Own</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 11:50 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. | County Partnership Task Force Luncheon  
                        | Nueces                                                                |
| 2:55 – 3:20 p.m.   | Refreshment Break  
                        | Rio Grande Exhibit Hall                                               |

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCAC Phase 2</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom A</td>
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</table>
| 1:15 – 2:05 p.m.   | **2.011 Constable**  
                        | Hon. Carlos Lopez, Travis County Constable  
                        | This presentation will include the Constitutional authority and liabilities associated with the office of the Constable, along with an overview of duties and responsibilities. |
| 2:05 – 2:55 p.m.   | **2.008 County Attorney**  
                        | Hon. Dee Hobbs, Williamson County Attorney  
                        | All Things County Attorney-The who, what, when, where, and most importantly the why will be discussed. Participants will learn more about the office of County Attorney, interaction with the Commissioners Court and opportunities for optimization. |
| 3:20 – 4:10 p.m.   | **2.002 County Commissioner**  
                        | Moderator: Hon. Byron Underwood, Chairman County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas Education Committee  
                        | Panelists: Hon. Grover “Tiger” Worsham, Trinity County Commissioner  
                        | Hon. Alma Moreno, San Patricio County Commissioner  
                        | Hon. Bill McCay, Lubbock County Commissioner |
| 4:10 – 5:00 p.m.   | **2.007 County Sheriff**  
                        | Hon. Dennis Wilson, Limestone County Sheriff  
                        | This session will explore the current county obligations concerning civil and forensic mental health beds and possible current legislative laws that may affect county government operations. |
### Thursday, February 9, 2017 (cont.)

#### Commissioner Session

**Grand Ballroom B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>After Disaster Strikes: Coordinating Response and Working with Partners</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 – 2:05 p.m.</td>
<td><em>Gilbert Jordan,</em> Emergency Management Section Director, Texas Department of Transportation; and</td>
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<td><em>Quenya Evans,</em> Texas Division of Emergency Management</td>
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<td>This discussion will focus on the TxDOT county assistance program, which provides surplus roadway</td>
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<td>materials to counties and some engineering assistance. Presenters will briefly discuss the routine</td>
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<td>airport maintenance program explaining how these programs may assist the counties after a major</td>
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<td></td>
<td>weather event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:05 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Are They Ready? Preparing Staff to Respond to Emergencies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:05 – 2:55 p.m.</td>
<td><em>Marc Shepherd,</em> Instructor, Texas Local Assistance Program</td>
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<td>This presentation is designed to help officials prepare their staff and families for emergencies</td>
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<td>long before the event. While the session will look at the basics of emergency preparation, it will</td>
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<td>also examine how to develop an emergency mindset that will help staff/families be prepared long</td>
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<td>before an actual emergency. Past examples including successes and failures from hurricanes and</td>
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<td>flooding will be reviewed.</td>
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<td>3:20 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Roadway Vegetation Control</strong></td>
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<td>3:20 – 4:10 p.m.</td>
<td><em>Donnie Petru,</em> Instructor, UT Arlington</td>
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<td>Controlling vegetation on roadways is not only vital for the safety of drivers, but it is important</td>
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<td>in maintaining the proper structure and drainage of roadways. This session will provide tips and</td>
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<td>techniques on vegetation control and how it is an important aspect in road maintenance programs.</td>
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<td>4:10 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Asphalt Pavement Mix Types</strong></td>
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<td>4:10 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td><em>Larry Welch,</em> Certification Instructor, Texas Asphalt Pavement Association (Asphalt Center); and</td>
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<td><em>Chuck Fuller,</em> Industry Consultant, Texas Asphalt Pavement Association</td>
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<td>This session will describe the different asphalt mixes used in the State of Texas and where to</td>
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<td>use them. Special attention will be given to pavement preservation.</td>
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### Thursday, February 9, 2017 (cont.)

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:15 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Refreshment Break</td>
<td>Atrium Level</td>
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<td>Sponsored by: Election Systems &amp; Software</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 – 2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Judicial Training</td>
<td>Wedgewood</td>
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<td>Inquests</td>
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<td>Hon. Jackie Miller, Ellis County Justice of the Peace</td>
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<td>2:15 – 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Guardianship Visitors Program</td>
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<td>Hon. Robert Hurley, Atascosa County Judge</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Update</td>
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<td>Sandra Patton, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission</td>
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<td>4:30 – 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>DWI Bond Schematic Moderated Discussion</td>
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<td>Randy Sarodsky, Texas Justice Court Training Center; and</td>
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<td>Susan M. Redford, Texas Association of Counties</td>
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<td>Dinner on Your Own</td>
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### Friday, February 10, 2017

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
<td>Atrium/Lobby Level Registration</td>
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### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### CCAC Phase 2

#### Grand Ballroom A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:20 – 9:10 a.m.</td>
<td>2.001 County Judge</td>
<td>Hon. Jason Brinkley, Cooke County Judge</td>
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<td>Presentation regarding the history, authority and basic responsibilities of the office of County Judge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>2.014 Extension Service</td>
<td>Jeff Ripley, Associate Director for County Operations, Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension</td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension service every county in Texas, from the biggest to the smallest, through a partnership with the U.S. government, the state government through Texas A&amp;M University and county government.</td>
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Friday, February 10, 2017 (Cont.)

CCAC Phase 3
Grand Ballroom B

8:20 – 9:10 a.m.  
3.019 Subdivision Regulations  
*Bob Bass, Allison Bass & Magee, LLP*

The authority of the Commissioners Court to regulate subdivisions will be reviewed and tools to aid in exercising this authority will be presented.

9:10 – 10:00 a.m.  
3.002 Commissions and Committees: Compliance Assistance from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
*Brian Christian, Director, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality*

This session provides an overview of programs offered by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality that help local governments achieve compliance with environmental regulations.

Administrative Training
Wedgewood

8:20 – 9:10 a.m.  
Every Day Leadership  
*DeDe Church, Principal, DeDe Church & Associates, LLC*

Wondering if you’re doing everything you can to offer consistent leadership to your team? Come and learn some quick tips for polishing off your approach, earning trust, addressing sensitive issues, and creating a more cohesive environment.

9:10 – 10:00 a.m.  
Strategies for Managing a Multi-Generational Team  
*DeDe Church, Principal, DeDe Church & Associates, LLC*

This practical workshop will offer tips for managing the daily disturbances that can occur when different generations work side-by-side. We’ll cover the best way to communicate with each team member (with a take-home reminder chart), and we’ll learn tools for handling conflict effectively. We’ll also see who is the quickest at identifying generational icons!

10:00 – 10:20 a.m.  
Break

Atrium Level
### Agenda & Class Schedule

#### Friday, February 10, 2017 (Cont.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 10:20 – 11:10 a.m. | **4.004 County Purchasing: Lessons Learned in Procurement of Design and Construction**  
**Brenda Jenkins, Sr. Vice President, ECM International, Inc.; and Mark Kennedy, Hays County, General Counsel**  
This session will address critical elements that should be considered in design and construction contracts from two unique perspectives; (1) the legal requirements, including but not limited to, insurance, indemnity, and current law regarding professional services and (2) the requirements for management control that support effective management of these unique contracts. |
| 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 noon | **4.014 Ethics in Public Office**  
**Charles Kimbrough, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP**  
Ethical leadership is a cornerstone of public service. Participants will learn about the critical components of ethics in the office. |

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Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.
Jim Allison is the General Counsel for the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas and is an Attorney at Law with Allison, Bass & Associates, L.L.P. Jim received his Bachelor’s degree, along with a master’s degree in government from East Texas State University followed by his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Texas School Of Law. In 1979, Attorney General Mark White appointed Jim to serve as Chief of the County and Local Government Section in the Office of the Attorney General. As a partner in Allison, Bass & Associates, his clients include several counties and special districts and he is licensed to appear in state courts, all federal district courts in Texas, the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Robert T. (Bob) Bass was born in Hale Center, Texas, on September 3, 1949. He received his Bachelor’s Degree in 1973 from Baylor University in history and education with a minor in political science. Bass worked as a legislative aide to a State Senator during the 63rd Legislative session, then resumed studies at Baylor School of Law, where he received his Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1976. Bass served as Assistant District Attorney in Tarrant County before returning home to Hale County to assume the position of County Attorney in 1977. In 1980 Bass entered the private practice of law with the firm White, Self & Bass, P.C. in Plainview and continued representation of counties, school districts and cities in the Texas Panhandle.

Bass joined Allison & Associates in February, 1990, and was named a partner of the present firm, Allison, Bass & Associates, L.L.P. in January, 1997. He is responsible for supervision of firm litigation, Bass is admitted to practice in all state courts, all federal districts of the United States, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. He is a frequent lecturer on topics of interest to local government officials. Bass is married, the father of three children, and a licensed pilot.

Chris Boleman, began serving as the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Director in the fall of 2008. In this role, he provides leadership to youth and volunteer programs in Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program. This is the largest 4-H program in the world, involving over 600,000 youth and 44,000 volunteers annually.

From 2000 until the fall of 2008, Dr. Boleman served as the state-level Extension Program Development Specialist, providing leadership to statewide strategic planning, program development, and evaluation. In 2005, Dr. Boleman led a new program focused on adult leadership. This program, entitled Building Connections: Community Leadership, was a partnership between several Extension units and departments in an effort to teach Community/Adult Leadership.

Dr. Boleman has published over 100 manuscripts within research publications, Extension publications, book chapters, books, and a popular press on leadership, management, volunteerism, and youth development. He resides in College Station with his wife, Dr. Randi Boleman.
Jason Brinkley is currently serving in his first term as the Cooke County Judge. Prior to his election, he served as a Justice of the Peace for Cooke County from 2009 through 2014. Jason holds a juris doctorate from Oklahoma City University School of Law and a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Texas A&M University, with a minor in Economics. He is a licensed attorney and a member of the State Bar College of Texas. Jason is Of Counsel for the law firm of Sullivant, Wright & Brinkley, LLP, in Gainesville. He currently serves as the President of the Texoma Council of Governments. He also serves on the board of directors for the Texoma Meals on Wheels, the Texoma Area Solid Waste Authority, and the Gainesville Economic Development Corporation. Jason is part of the Texas Association of Counties Core Legislative Group and is also involved with the National Association of Counties; serving as Vice Chair of the Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee.

Brian Christian is the Director of the Environmental Assistance Division (EAD) of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The TCEQ is Texas’ comprehensive environmental regulatory agency, with jurisdiction over air and water quality and waste management. EAD helps small businesses, small local governments, and the general public understand environmental regulations and how to work with the TCEQ. Brian has served in multiple capacities at TCEQ since 1994, and has been with the State of Texas for 29 years.

DeDe Church is an employment lawyer with 24 years of experience and the principal owner at DeDe Church & Associates where she has trained thousands of people on best practices for creating a productive, respectful workplace. Known for humor and practicality, DeDe is often invited to present at distinguished conferences, and she received the highest rating from 100% of the attendees at the Gulf Coast Symposium on HR Issues and from 100% of attendees at the HR Southwest Conference in Dallas. Her clients include Whole Foods Market, Baker Hughes, Texas A&M University, and the City of San Antonio. DeDe is a former Senior Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas where she represented the State in over 30 trials and successfully argued before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Texas Supreme Court. DeDe received the prestigious Presidential Citation from the President of the Texas State Bar in recognition of outstanding service to the citizens of Texas.

Nathan Cradduck is the County Auditor for Tom Green County in San Angelo, Texas, where he has served for the past eleven years. He earned a Master’s degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Sam Houston State University. His previous experience includes audits of multiple Counties, Cities, and other local governments across the State. Nathan is also a graduate of the TAC Executive Leadership Program, a recipient of the Jerry Ware Leadership Award, the immediate past-president of the Texas Association of County Auditors, and currently serves on the board of directors of the Texas Association of Counties.
**John Curnutt** is the Director of Training for the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) Program out of Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. He recently retired after 21 years with the San Marcos, Texas Police Department. For nearly 17 years, John was also a member of the Hays County SWAT team serving on entry teams as a point-man, assistant team leader, team leader and then as a sniper. In 2002, John was assigned by his agency to the ALERRT Program serving first as lead instructor then moving to Director of Training in 2005. John has travelled all over the United States, Canada and Australia training officers and agencies in active shooter response. As Director of Training, John works regularly with Homeland Security, the FBI and other Department of Justice divisions to shape best practices for response to terror attacks and other active-attacker mass casualty scenes. John has been awarded the Medal of Honor, Medal of Valor, 2 Life-Saving Medals, a Police Commendation Medal, a Distinguished Service Award, Chief’s Recognition Award and the Texas Tactical Police Officer’s Association Excellence Award. Prior to law enforcement, John attended Texas State University and is also a US Army veteran.

**Quenya Evans** is the Public Works Response Team Coordinator for the State Management Team at the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) – Austin. She oversees the coordination of the Texas Public Works Response Team and the coordination of public works resources needed for state level disasters/incidents. Quenya previously worked in the Regional Disaster Finance Program where she conducted courses for state and local entities related to disaster cost tracking. Before that she worked 18 years at the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), where she gained 16 years of experience in managing multiple levels of state and federal grants and contracts including multiple disaster response reimbursements. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Texas A&M University and Master of Public Administration from Sam Houston State University.

**Syd Falk** is a partner in Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP in Austin. He received his law degree from University of Texas in 1984, and was a briefing attorney for Hon. Will Garwood of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for a year before he joined the firm. He earned a Ph.D. in Astronomy from UT in 1974, and did post-doctoral research in astrophysics at CalTech and the University of Chicago’s Fermi Institute before joining the UT Astronomy faculty in 1978. His law practice includes local government law, litigation and appeals, intellectual property and licensing, voting rights and redistricting, Endangered Species Act, and competitive procurement and contracting. He represents both governmental and private clients.

**Chuck Fuller** has been involved in the asphalt industry for over 30 years. During his 19 years as president of Ramming Paving, Chuck has participated in the construction of SH 130, US 290, US 183, IH 35, and many more highways through central Texas. Recently retired from Ramming Paving, Chuck now works with Texas Asphalt Pavement Association as an industry consultant promoting quality production and placement of asphalt products.
Marc Hamlin became the Brazos County District Clerk in 1995, where he continues to serve. He is a past-president of the Texas Association of Counties and currently serves as the National Association of Counties Representative.

Jennifer Hara is a Director for Institute for Public-Private Partnerships. She leads IP3’s capacity building and consulting efforts focused on North America. She brings over fifteen years of experience in the private sector, focusing on government contracts, transaction advisory services, and business development activities across all infrastructure sectors, including transportation and energy. Ms. Hara brings with her an intimate knowledge of Public-Private Partnerships globally, and very specifically in the United States and Canada. Her career has included being a part of teams that developed innovative financing programs, structured the financing for project finance transactions across the utility sectors, and advised clients on the appropriate sources of debt and equity finance. She has an understanding of political decision-making, international project finance, economic and strategic planning, and business negotiations and communications. Ms. Hara has a Master of Arts in International Economics from the Elliott School of International Affairs at the George Washington University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and International Politics from Seattle University.

Dee Hobbs is the Williamson County Attorney and began his career with the Williamson County Attorney’s Office in 2001 and has served as County Attorney since 2013. Mr. Hobbs earned a BA from the University of Texas at Austin and a JD from the Baylor School of Law. Mr. Hobbs is a member of the Texas District and County Attorney’s Association and serves on several subcommittees. Mr. Hobbs has provided training to numerous local and state agencies; such as Texas Department of Transportation, Capitol Area Council of Governments-Police Academy, Texas Justice Court Judges Association, and Domestic Assault Response Team just to name a few. He has received awards and recognitions from the Texas Municipal Police Association, Children’s Advocacy Center, and the Williamson County Victim Advocates.

Brenda Jenkins is Sr. Vice President of a Program Management firm that provides Owner Representation in all phases of Capital Improvement Programs. Ms. Jenkins earned degrees from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas with a Bachelor of Science in Construction Science and a Master’s of Science in Construction Management. Ms. Jenkins completed post graduate work at the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. She developed and taught courses in the College of Architecture, Department of Construction, in Mechanical and Electrical Systems, as one of the first woman professionals in the program in the U.S. She served as the Executive Director of the Public Utility Commission of Texas in the administration of Governor Ann Richards and Governor George W. Bush. She has over 25 years’ experience in the construction industry.
**SCHOOL FACULTY**

**Gilbert Jordan** is TxDOT’s Emergency Management’s Section Director, he has held this title for the past 6 years. Prior to his current position he worked in the El Paso district as their Maintenance Administrator. In May, he will have 40 years of TxDOT service under his belt. This past October Gilbert received the Raymond E. Stotzer Jr. Award from Texas A&M in recognition of outstanding leadership dedication and service to the state of Texas in the field of transportation. He served 32 years in the Naval Reserve, highly decorated; his last assignment was Command Master Chief for Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 22, the "Lone Star Battalion." The battalion served in Iraq during the surge in 2005 and 2006.

**Mark Kennedy**, twice a graduate of Texas A&M University (’92/’95), has been practicing law for over 16 years, 10 years of which have been dedicated to performing general civil and transactional work for Hays County, Texas. As General Counsel for Hays County, Mr. Kennedy is responsible for advising the Commissioners Court; defending the county (or coordinating defense) in civil suits, including employment and civil rights claims; and drafting and negotiating contracts in which the county is a party, including capital improvements contracts and professional services agreements. Mr. Kennedy was the County’s attorney in the first Design-Build project contract and professional services valued at $72M, several CMR contracts in excess of $250M and litigation involving design.

**Charles R. Kimbrough** is an attorney with the firm of Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP in Austin. He has degrees from Texas A&M University and received his law degree from South Texas College of Law. Kimbrough is licensed by the State Bar of Texas, the U.S. Supreme Court, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western U.S. District Courts. He has served as criminal district attorney of Caldwell County and was formerly a partner with the firm of Blundell, Moore & Kimbrough in Lockhart. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Austin Bar Association, Bar Association of the 5th Circuit, the Austin chapter of the Federal Bar Association, the Texas Aggie Bar Association and the Texas District & County Attorneys Association.

**Carlos B. Lopez**, Travis County Constable Precinct Five has been employed by Travis County since 1978. In November 2012, he was elected Constable. He has a Master Peace Officer Certification, TCOLE Civil Process Proficiency Certification, is a Licensed TCOLE instructor, and a graduate of the Constable’s Leadership Institute from Texas State University (accredited by SHSU LEMIT). Constable Lopez was appointed a member of the Texas Supreme Court Ancillary Rules committee and member of the TCOLE Special Skill Discipline of Civil Process & Liability committee. He has served on the State JPCA Constable Education Committee acting as Secretary and Vice-Chair, and is now chair of the Constable Legislative Committee. He is currently an instructor for LEMIT at Sam Houston State and senior faculty member in his 22nd year as an instructor for the Texas Justice Court Training Center at Texas State. Constable Lopez is currently the President elect of Texas JPCA, Inc.
**School Faculty**

**Russell Marshall** is the Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team (TEMAT) Coordinator for Field Response with the Texas Division of Emergency Management. Recently, Russ retired as a Battalion Chief from the Longview Fire Department with 29 years of service. Fourteen of those years were spent as the Special Operations Chief, where he supervised hazardous materials response and the technical rescue disciplines.

In 2003, Russ assisted with the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster. Credentialed as an Operations Section Chief, Russ served on the East Texas Type III Incident Management Team. He has deployed to hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Dolly, the Texas Forest Service State Incident Command Post during the wildfires of 2011, and numbers of incidents. Russ has a Bachelor’s Degree in Public Safety Administration, and is currently finishing his Master’s Degree in Emergency and Disaster Preparedness. He is a graduate of the Executive Fire Officer Program from the U.S. Fire Administrations, National Fire Academy.

**Donnie Petru** has over 27 years of experience working for Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) as the maintenance supervisor for the Yoakum District. Mr. Petru also worked for more than 15 years as a firefighter. He has been a training instructor with UT Arlington for just about a year where he teaches many topics for UTA including work zone flagger safety, road crew safety, roadway drainage, and TMUTCD courses. He is an expert in his field and applies extensive knowledge to every class he teaches.

**Jeff Ripley** is the Associate Director for County Operations with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. His primary responsibilities include providing direction to the recruitment, hiring and supervision of county staff, and serving as the administrative liaison for Commissioners Courts. He began that role on December 1, 2014; prior to that time he had served as Associate Professor and Extension Specialist for Program Development with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. He has also served as the District Extension Administrator in Corpus Christi, TX, as a County Extension Director and County Extension Agent.

Jeff holds a BS in Agri-Business from Tarleton State University, an M.Ed. in Agricultural Education from Texas State University and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from Texas A&M University.

**Marc Shepherd** has more than 30 years of experience in communications, media relations, and community, public affairs. He began his career as an anchor and reporter with the United States’ Air Force’s Armed Forces Television Service. He would later work for various television stations across the nation as a reporter and anchor. Recently retired from the Texas Department of Transportation’s Beaumont District, Marc developed internal and external communications strategies for transportation projects, and was responsible for communications during hurricanes Rita and Ike, as well as many other emergencies and disasters. Marc holds a Masters Degree in Education from Lamar University in Beaumont, TX.
Todd Staples is the President of the Texas Oil & Gas Association, the state’s oldest and largest trade association representing every facet of the oil and gas industry, including small independents, major producers, pipelines and refineries. Staples was twice elected statewide to serve as the Texas Agriculture Commissioner and is the author of Broken Borders, Broken Promises, a book that details our nation’s border and immigration challenges and provides a bold path forward. He served with distinction as a member of the Texas Senate and House and began his elected service on the city council in his hometown of Palestine. As a successful businessman and rancher, he was deeply involved in volunteer service for his local church, community and state. Today, Staples continues his passion to help make the Lone Star State the best place to do business and raise a family.

Donna Thornton is in her second term as Wharton County Treasurer, where she is in charge of Cash Management, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable and Payroll/Employer Benefits. She also was appointed to serve as Investment Officer, Safety Officer, Sick Bank Administrator and on the Bail Bond Board. Donna holds a BBA in Accounting, is a licenses certified public accountant and a certified investment officer. She and her husband also own and operate an agri-business.

Donna has been a chief financial officer in industry which included business financing, cost accounting sectors, patents, commodity trading, international sales and sourcing. Her resume also includes three appointments as county auditor for Wharton County and a former director of the Texas Association of County Auditors. During her tenure, she made great strides in updating the office by conversion to the first integrated software system and adopting the state of Texas accounting model. She has authored many new policies including investment, budget and fixed asset. As treasurer, her goal has been to streamline operations of the office while promoting transparency. She is not afraid of change and is passionate about creating efficiencies.

Zack Wavrusa is the Felony Division Chief for the Rusk County & District Attorney’s Office and has been with the office for his entire 6 year career. He is a graduate of the Texas Tech School of Law. In addition to his responsibilities as a felony prosecutor, Mr. Wavrusa provides research and advice to the Rusk County Commissioners Court. He is a member of the State Bar College and State Bar of Texas Crime Victims Committee.

Larry Welch has over 30 years’ experience in asphalt design, placement, and testing. Larry retired after 27 years with TxDOT, with 18 years as lab supervisor. After leaving TxDOT, Larry began teaching at the Texas Asphalt Center (certification department). Through the Asphalt Center, Larry trains, teaches, and certifies individuals in all aspects of asphalt testing. Larry’s paving and compaction seminars, presented throughout the state last year have had over 1,000 participants.
**SCHOOL FACULTY**

**Dennis D. Wilson**, Limestone County Sheriff, is now serving his 41st year in Law Enforcement. His career in Law Enforcement began 1975 as a Deputy Sheriff with the Limestone County Sheriff’s Office. In November 1999, Sheriff Wilson served as a District Attorney Criminal Investigator for the Limestone County District Attorney Office. On January 1, 2001, he began his 1st elected term as Sheriff of Limestone County, Texas. On January 1, 2017, Sheriff Wilson will begin serving his 5th term as Sheriff of Limestone County, Texas.

Sheriff Wilson earned an associate degree in education from Navarro College and his Master Peace Officer certificate in 1994.

Sheriff Wilson now serves as the President of the Sheriff’s Association of Texas and on the Legislative and Jail Advisory Committees. In 2013 Sheriff Wilson was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve as a Commissioner on the Board for the Texas Commission on Jail Standards representing the rural Sheriffs in our state and was proudly reappointed by Governor Greg Abbott. Sheriff Wilson has a passion in helping improve the Behavioral Health care system in Texas and proudly works with the staff at Sam Houston State University/Criminal Management Institute of Texas, working on educational training for all Texas Law Enforcement and Correctional Officers.

*Our apologies to any speakers whose biographies were not available by time of print.*
IN APPRECIATION OF OUR SPONSORS

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BRONZE
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES
ADVANCED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
DRG ARCHITECTS

CONTRIBUTOR
SOUTHERN TIRE MART
LINEBARGER GROGGAN BLAIR & Sampson, LLP
ROMCO EQUIPMENT
PARSONS ROOFING
## Exhibitors

### Exhibitor List

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59th Annual V.G. Young School for County Commissioners Courts
February 8-9, 2017
Renaissance Hotel,
Austin Tx

EXHIBITOR MAP

59th Annual V.G. Young School
for County Commissioners Courts

Breaks

Breaks
Save the Date
for the 60th Annual
V.G. Young School for County Commissioners Courts

February 20 – 22, 2018
Hilton College Station & Conference Center, College Station, TX
| NOTES |