



CAMERON COUNTY
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

December 28, 2016

[REDACTED]

Dear Sirs/Mdme.:

On November 8, 2016, the voters of Cameron County approved the creation of a project venue tax to support the construction and operation of the South Texas Eco-Tourism Center (STEC) to be located next to the Bahia Grande wetlands just south of the Town of Laguna Vista and the Sea and Space Amphitheater located within the Isla Blanca Park on South Padre Island. The Texas Local Government Code 334 allows up to a 2.0 percent tax on eligible hotel and short-term room rental receipts to be levied not to exceed a combined state, city and county tax of 17.0 percent.

Hotels and other short-term room rentals subject to tax by South Padre Island will be subject to a \$0.005 tax (1/2%) for every dollar of eligible room rental receipts. All other room rental receipts not generated on South Padre Island will be assessed an additional tax of 2.0 percent for each eligible \$1.0 of short-term room rental receipts. The communities subject to the 2.0 percent assessment include Brownsville, Harlingen, San Benito, La Feria, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel, Laguna Vista, Rancho Viejo, Rio Hondo, Arroyo City, and all other areas in Cameron County not located on South Padre Island. Beginning January 1, 2017, please begin to collect the new venue tax. The tax receipts will be collected in the same manner as the Hotel Occupancy Tax levied by cities and the State. The collected balances will be due monthly. The County is currently working on a collection program and you will be notified as to "How to File" and remit payments. If you have any questions, please feel free to write or call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark A. Yates".

Mark Yates
Director of Program, Development & Management
(956) 544-0828
Mark.yates@co.cameron.tx.us

P.O. Box 3846
Brownsville, Texas 78520

1100 E. Monroe Street, Suite 105
Brownsville, Texas 78520

Phone: (956) 544-0828
Fax: (956) 544-0891
www.co.cameron.tx.us