



## **Honorable Barbara Canales** **Judge** **Nueces County, Texas**

On January 1, 2019, Barbara Canales was sworn in as Nueces County's first female Nueces County Judge. For the previous five (5) years, Judge Canales had served as an officer (Secretary) / Port Commissioner for the Port of Corpus Christi of Nueces County, Texas. She is a native of Nueces County, a graduate of W. B. Ray High School (valedictorian, 1984), graduate of the University of Texas (degreed Petroleum Engineer, 1989), graduate of



University of Houston – School of Law (Juris Doctor degree, 1992) – and she thereafter worked to build an independent oil and gas exploration and production company.

Barbara Canales is a distinguished professional and active member of the South Texas community. Prior to her election, she worked as a practicing attorney while also maintaining an active pursuit of various oil and gas interests.

Barbara's listing of past positions of community significance is lengthy, and more current positions of service include: Co-Chair of the Gulf States Counties and Parishes Caucus of the National Association of Counties; Director of Emergency Management for Nueces County; Vice-Chair of Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program; Dr. Hector P. Garcia Memorial Foundation (member); 2021 White House Fellow Interview and Selection Committee (member); United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce (founding board member); Corpus Christi Hispanic Chamber (emeritus board member); Vice-Chair of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone ("TIRZ") #4; Metropolitan Planning Organization (member); Ready or Not Foundation (founding member, President); South Texas Institute of the Arts (advisory board member); Robstown Area Development Corporation ("RADDC" member); Nueces County Advisory Board on Better Health Outcomes (member); and Coastal Bend Council of Governments ("COG" member). Judge Canales is also a member of the Nueces County Purchasing Board, Corpus

Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation (“CCREDC”), State Bar of Texas, Corpus Christi Bar Association, TIRZ #2, TIRZ #3, Juvenile Board, Board of Judges and recently appointed to the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC).

Distinguished honors include the following: University of Texas at Austin Distinguished Young Engineer Award; LULAC Council No. 1 Community Leadership Award; Y Women in Careers Award for Law; NAACP Humanitarian Award; Las Estrellas Award from the Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas; Girl Scouts of Corpus Christi Hall of Honor Award; Texas A&M Corpus Christi Woman of Distinction Award; Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President’s Award; and recognized as Philanthropist of the Year from the Nueces County Democratic Party. Barbara is the mother of five (5) wonderful children, and remains active in her community as a parent, a community advocate, and Nueces County Judge.