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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Belton, Texas
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Texas Border Security Symposium in Belton

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce announced a Texas Border Security Symposium on Monday, January 29, 5:30 p.m. at the Central Texas Council of Governments, located at 2180 N. Main in Belton. The symposium is open to the public.

The Symposium will be an informative session to discuss current border security measures, legislative action that has been taken by the Texas Legislature addressing border security, and the conflicts of Legislative action between Texas and the federal government due to legal challenges and impairments between the two.

The event is jointly sponsored by State Representative Hugh Shine, Congressman John Carter and Congressman August Pflueger, who will be joined by State Representatives Ryan Guillen and David Spiller who sponsored recent border related legislation during the 3rd and 4th special sessions of the 88th Legislature, and Assistant District Attorney Nelson Barnes for the 452nd District Attorney's Office on Border Prosecution and Project Director for Operation Lone Star.

State Representative Ryan Guillen, House District 31 in Southwest Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, is Chairman of the Texas House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety, authoring House Bill 5, and sponsoring Senate Bill 4 in the 3rd special session of the 88th Legislative Session, increasing penalties for smuggling persons and the operation of a stash house.

Representative David Spiller, House District 68 representing Western and Northern Central Texas, is a member of the House Committee on State Affairs, authoring House Bill 4, and sponsoring Senate Bill 4 in the 4th special session of the 88th Legislative Session, creating offenses for illegal entry and reentry into the State of Texas.

Both legislative initiatives were co-authored by Representative Shine and signed by the Governor.

Assistant District Attorney Nelson Barnes directs the Border Prosecution Unit and is the Project Director for Operation Lone Star (OLS) a joint operation between the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Military Department along the southern border between Texas and Mexico, which started in 2021 and is currently ongoing.

"Congressmen Carter, Pflueger and I put this symposium together for the benefit of our constituents, to provide a timely informative session to discuss current border security measures, legislative action that has been taken by the Texas Legislature addressing border security and the conflicts of Legislative action between Texas and the federal government due to legal challenges and impairments between the state and federal government," stated Shine.

"The federal government's failure to secure our border threatens the safety and property of all Texans and must be stopped," said Shine. "Illegal drugs, terrorists, health concerns, individual's safety, personal property protection and the vast numbers of illegal migrants entering Texas along our border has a negative financial impact on local law enforcement, our health care system, our public schools and our local communities," Shine stated.

Randy Pittenger, Chamber President/CEO said, "We are excited about helping bring information about this important topic to our community so the public can hear directly from our state and federal representatives.

For more information about this event or the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, go to www.beltonchamber.com or contact the Chamber at info@beltonchamber.com or 254-939-3551. ###