

*Leo H. Alarcon's career in public service first began when on November 27, 2004 he was sworn into office by Kleberg County Judge Pete DeLaGarza to fulfill an unexpired term. Alarcon began by organizing a competitive campaign in 2004 having received the highest number of votes in three highly contested elections. Initially, out of four candidates for the position of County Clerk, he obtained forty percent (40%) of the vote in the March Primary election; fifty-four percent (54%) in the April run-off and fifty-nine percent (59%) of the vote in the November General.*

*On November 7, 2006, Alarcon was reelected to his first full four-year term. He won his bid for reelection by receiving sixty-nine percent (69%) of the vote, the highest votes among all contested candidates in Kleberg County during the March Primary Election. Under his administration Alarcon has expanded and streamlined services as well as introduced electronic voting throughout Kleberg County. He was born in Kingsville and grew up on the west side of town having attended McRoberts Elementary, Memorial Junior High and graduated in 1974 from Henrietta M. King High School. Alarcon holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Journalism and a Master of Science degree in Counseling and Guidance from Texas A&M University-Kingsville.*

*Prior to taking office Alarcon's employment era included time with TAMUK, Kingsville ISD, Santa Gertrudis Breeders International and contract work with King Ranch, Inc. In his first year, Alarcon introduced numerous changes to his office which began by creating a central cashiering and checks and balances system, extending office hours and implementing a criminal record check for all existing and future employees. As County Clerk, Alarcon also introduced the idea of having the local registrar situation moved from city hall to his office at the Kleberg County Courthouse. Both political jurisdictions approved this measure which eliminated duplication of services for our community. His efforts of collaborating with the Bureau of Vital Statistics to have Kleberg County obtain remote access from Austin and offer the availability of all Texans to obtain their birth certificates from the courthouse in Kingsville were justified.*

*As the chief elections official for the county, the Commissioner's Court also approved his recommendation to permanently consolidate and reduce countywide voting locations from thirty (30) to twenty (20) precincts. Alarcon suggested that by having only five (5) voting precincts for each commissioner's area and changing the numbering system would reflect and coincide with each county commissioner's precinct area. The new method would avoid confusion for persons voting in precinct numbers one (1) thru four (4) or living in commissioner's precincts numbers one (1) thru four (4).*