

## ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

Last Friday Texas Association of Counties sponsored a get acquainted meeting our new State Senator Peter Flores. It was held at the convention center in Uvalde and sponsored by Judge Mitchell of Uvalde County, Judge Schuchart and myself. It was well attended by the many counties in the far reaching senatorial district. Senator Flores said “whether or not you voted for me, I want to be available to each and every one of you.” In my dealings with Peter I know he means it! He has received announcement of some plum senatorial committee assignments including the biggest one, the Senate Finance Committee. He is also on several others including Health and Human Resources, Criminal Justice and Natural Resources and Economic Development. It was a very friendly meeting, yet there were hard questions asked by county officials about their concerns about property tax reform, unfunded mandates and others. Senator Flores did a good job handling the difficult questions. He does have a lot of work in front of him but seems very capable of handling the many balancing acts to come.

Since he lives in Atascosa County and is the first Senator I am aware of to represent us and live here I am going to honor his request for an office in the courthouse. It will be quite an honor and opportunity for the citizens to have their state senator office there. He has only asked for a desk and a phone with a small space for him. I am sure his main office will be in Austin with all of his staff. We are still sorting out the “ripple effect” moves in the courthouse from the County Attorney and staff, District Judge and staff, and County Court At Law and staff moving across the street to the new “Justice Center.” But we will include his request in our planning.

Thanks for listening.

We want you to be proud of your County Government.