

State of Texas §  
County of Fort Bend §

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FREEING THE CITGO 6**

**WHEREAS,** For two years now, six American CITGO businessmen: Jorge Toledo, Tomeu Vadell, Alirio Zambrano, Jose Luis Zambrano, Gustavo Cardenas, and Jose Angel Pereira have been detained in Venezuela and separated from their families on unsubstantiated charges. They remain jailed in deplorable conditions and have been consistently denied due process in Venezuelan court, under the oversight of the Maduro regime; and

**WHEREAS,** This crisis hits close to home since four of the men detained are valued residents of Fort Bend County. Our County has always stood by the Pledge of Allegiance’s closing, “...with liberty and justice for all.” Those words serve as a protective umbrella for each and every citizen of our country at home and abroad. Thus, the denial of safe return for these innocent men shows a blatant disregard for the sovereignty of our democracy; and

**WHEREAS,** The men’s finances have been cut off, leaving their families to shoulder the expensive cost of providing food, medicine, and clothing for the CITGO 6. Congressman Pete Olson has been active on the issue from the beginning; persuading banks to defer home-loan payments for five of the families and rallying in marches to pressure the Maduro regime to release the captives; and

**WHEREAS,** Fort Bend County stands with the families of the CITGO 6 because injustice must be called to question and actions must be taken; we fail in our duty to each other otherwise.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS, THAT:***

On this \_\_\_\_ day of February, 2020, Fort Fend County Commissioners Court does hereby affirm that the imprisonment and prolonged detention of the CITGO 6 is inhumane and counter to international law, and calls on the Venezuelan Government to issue an emergency removal order and release these individuals.

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KP George, County Judge

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Vincent Morales, Commissioner, Pct. 1

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Andy Meyers, Commissioner, Pct. 3

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Grady Prestage, Commissioner, Pct. 2

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Ken R. DeMerchant, Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST:

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Laura Richard, County Clerk

(Seal)