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Fort Bend County Judge KP George Host Women's History Month Celebration and Panel Discussion

(FORT BEND, TX) – On Monday, March 21, Fort Bend County Judge KP George hosted a high tea panel discussion for invited guests at the Fort Bend Museum in honor of Women's History Month.

The panel discussion kicked off with keynote speaker Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher (TX-07), followed by a discussion with panelists about their journey as women in leadership roles, creating a new generation of leaders, and the factors that impact women leaders.

Panelists included:

Alicia Kerber Palma, Cónsul General of Mexico - International lawyer, active defender of Women's Rights, creator of the Window for the Comprehensive Care for Women (the first consular tool with a gender focus), and an active promoter of the design and development of networks.

Jennifer Chiang of the Chiang Law Firm - Since 2009, Jennifer C. Chiang has engaged in a wide civil practice that includes Commercial Litigation, Business Formation, Real Estate, Oil and Gas, Probate, Veteran's Disability, and Children's Protective Services.

Melissa Gonzalez, Ph.D., President of Lone Star College-Kingwood - President at Lone Star College-Kingwood. She was formerly the President of Houston Community College-Southeast from 2017- 2021. Before HCC, Dr. Gonzalez served in numerous leadership roles at Lone Star College, Dean at LSC-North

Harris, Special Assistant to the President, Interim Vice President, and Vice-Chancellor of Workforce and Economic Development.

Christie Whitbeck Superintendent of Fort Bend ISD - Appointed as Superintendent of Fort Bend ISD in September 2021, Whitbeck is regarded statewide as an experienced, award-winning leader and innovator who has a reputation as a consensus builder. She has served on numerous state committees to support public education in Texas.

The event was emceed by Fort Bend County Attorney Bridgette Smith Lawson, who became the first African American and first female to be elected to the office of Fort Bend County Attorney when she assumed office on January 1, 2021.

During his opening remarks, Fort Bend County Judge KP George spoke on the importance of recognizing the strides that women have made towards gender equality since the women's suffrage movement.

"I don't understand why we had to wait 144 years to give women the right to vote. Why are we still having to wait for gender equality," questioned Judge George. "Women have contributed so much to this country there is no doubt that their talent, intellect, and determination have made the world a better place."

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