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Fort Bend County Sheriff Eric Fagan Elected Chair of Houston HIDTA

Sheriff Fagan continues to serve on the Houston High Intensity Drug Trafficking

Area Executive Board as Chair

(FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS) – Fort Bend County Sheriff Eric Fagan has been elected by his peers to serve as the Chair of the Houston High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Executive Board.

Since taking office in 2021, Sheriff Fagan has served on the Houston HIDTA Executive Board. Last year, he was unanimously elected as Vice Chair. On November 16, 2023, the Houston HIDTA Executive Board unanimously elected Sheriff Fagan to serve as the Chair of the Houston HIDTA Executive Board. His term as Chair will run for one year, through November 2024.

Created by Congress in 1988 with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, the HIDTA Program was established to "coordinate and assist federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to address regional drug threats with the purpose of reducing drug trafficking and drug production in the United States." The purpose of the HIDTA Program is to "disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling and disrupting drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations, as well as improve the efficiency and

effectiveness of HIDTA initiatives." There are currently 33 regional HIDTAs across the United States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

The Houston HIDTA Executive Board is comprised of leaders of 20 area law enforcement agencies: 10 local and state agencies and 10 federal agencies. It is the duty of the Executive Board to assess drug trafficking threats in the region, develop strategies to address the threats, develop initiatives to implement the strategies, and propose funding to implement the initiatives.

"Sheriff Fagan has been an active member of the Houston HIDTA Executive Board for the past three years, bringing valuable input to the board, especially in light of his many years of law enforcement experience to draw upon," says Houston HIDTA Director, Mike McDaniel. "Our communities are facing unprecedented challenges brought to them by the regional and national overdose epidemic. The Houston HIDTA is looking forward to the experience and leadership that Sheriff Fagan will bring to this fight."

"I take great pride in serving on the Houston HIDTA Executive Board, recognizing the significant benefits and resources it provides to Fort Bend County," says Sheriff Fagan. "Our unwavering commitment ensures we will persist in the crucial fight against drug trafficking and drug overdoses, striving for a safer and healthier community."

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About Houston HIDTA

Created by Congress in 1988, the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program coordinates and assists federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to address regional drug threats with the purpose of reducing drug trafficking and drug production in the United States. The HIDTA Program oversees 33 regional HIDTAs in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. With HIDTA presence in over 600 counties across the country, an estimated two-thirds of Americans live in a HIDTA-designated county.

About the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office was founded in 1837 and is the largest and most diverse law enforcement agency in Fort Bend County. The Sheriff's Office has over 900 employees, including 615 sworn peace officers and 22

reserve volunteer deputies dedicated to protecting and serving nearly 900,000 Fort Bend County residents. Among the 10 fastest-growing counties in the nation, Fort Bend covers 885 square miles and includes 21 unincorporated communities.

Visit our website | www.fbcsheriff.org
View our 2022 Annual Report
Follow us on social media | https://linktr.ee/FBCSOTexas

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