



**COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 11th, 2012, 6:30PM**

The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 11th, 2012, at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Executive Session, Room #1027, Austin, Texas.

Members in Attendance

Tom Esparza, Chair
Donald Krupens
Sunny Ogunro
Miguel Ancira

Members Absent

Laura Hernandez, Vice Chair
Syed Rahman

Presenters:

None

Staff

Natalie Cuccia, HHSD

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Esparza called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
2. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION:** John Sisson, who is running for Travis County Sheriff, spoke about his credentials and discussed issues related to Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the Travis County Jail. He stated that Travis County leads the nation in deportations. Mr. Sisson passed out campaign materials.
3. **PRESENTATION:** Jill Scott Stone of the Refugee Screening Health Clinic was absent due to illness.
4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the regular meeting on December 14th, 2011 were approved on Commissioner Ancira's motion, Commissioner Ogunro's 2nd, on a 4-0 vote. Hernandez and Rahman absent.
5. **REPORT: Immigrant Services Network:** Commissioner Esparza briefed the members on current activities. ISNA will now meeting at the St. John's Community Center.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:** None
7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. **TU VOZ Help Lines.** Patricia Udales of the Austin Police Department addressed the Commission regarding TU VOZ. Ms. Udales is the staff member responsible for managing the hotline. TU VOZ is a general hotline that serves primarily the Spanish

speaking population, although it does get calls from individuals who speak other languages. The line receives calls dealing with a variety of issues including reports of crime, refugee issues, landlord, tenant and property issues. The line provides referrals, files police reports, and maintains a list of agencies that provide services to immigrants. The hours of operation are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m. Ms. Udales handed out posters and materials for the Commission to distribute in the immigrant communities.

- b. **Emergency Contact Card for Residents with limited English proficiency.** No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. without objection.