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**NEWS  
RELEASE**

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## City Manager Awarded Fellow Designation, Quality Texas Foundation Regional Program Highly Selective, Peer-Driven Recognition for Service

**El Paso, Texas**—The City Manager Tommy Gonzalez has been designated as a Fellow for the Quality Texas Foundation Regional Program (QTFRP).

This highly selective honor is awarded by peers in leadership across both public and private sector organizations, recognizing Gonzalez's years of service and leadership in his professional work and for the Foundation. Gonzalez is now one of only 27 individuals who have been selected for this honor, over the past 30 years.

The Quality Texas Foundation Regional Program is a non-profit organization that assists for-profit businesses, health care, education, government agencies, communities of excellence, faith-based institutions, and not-for-profits to achieve continuous improvements to their workforce engagement, customer/patient/student satisfaction, and financial performance. The Foundation, serving organizations across the states of Texas, Missouri, Kansas, part of Oklahoma, Louisiana, South Carolina, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, offers training, seminars, and assessments, and recognizes organizations across the region which are committed to continuous improvement and the highest degree of performance excellence through the application of the rigorous National Malcolm Baldrige Framework.

"Tommy Gonzalez is a tremendous leader and advocate of taking care of the workforce, customers, and financials. As Chair of the QTFRP, he has led us through explosive growth and to a number one status of the twenty-seven states in the Alliance of States using the Baldrige Framework. I have served this country for over thirty years in our military and I have never worked for a better leader than Mr. Gonzalez. His selection as Fellow is more than well deserved," said Foundation CEO Dr. Mac McGuire, Army (Ret.) Lt. Col.

In 2022, Gonzalez was recognized nationally when he was named the 2022 E. David Spong Lifetime Achievement Award recipient by the Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The award recognized his exceptional leadership and management values and principles, inspiring others and improving communities. This national accolade was a further affirmation of the continued national recognition El Paso is receiving for the work being done to move our community forward.

In 2021, Gonzalez was nominated to serve a third term as Chair of the Quality Texas Foundation Board of Directors, making history as the Foundation's first Chair selected for three consecutive terms.

In 2019 and again in 2020, Gonzalez led his team in making national history, as the City of El Paso became the only municipality to earn the Texas Award for Performance Excellence from the Texas Quality Foundation for two consecutive years.

Gonzalez continues working with community partners by sharing best practices, the Baldrige-based framework, and public engagement strategies with local school districts, the county hospital, a private hospital, county administration, the housing authority, and other nonprofit groups through the

—more—



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Communities of Excellence (COE) framework. The Communities of Excellence program is designed to serve multiple organizations by improving El Paso's quality of life, healthcare, and education. During fiscal year 2022, students from across the County of El Paso were trained on the City's budget resulting in a final presentation by a team of students to the City Council on the City's budget of approximately \$1 billion in operations and \$1 billion in capital expenditures.

Gonzalez was awarded the 2019 Baldrige Foundation Leadership Excellence Award in the Government sector by the Malcom Baldrige Foundation and the 2019 United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce Border City Leadership Award.

Prior to joining El Paso in 2014, Gonzalez served as City Manager for the City of Irving, Texas. Under his leadership, the City of Irving earned the Texas Award for Performance Excellence from the Texas Quality Foundation. The City of Irving also won the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's highest Presidential honor for performance excellence.

Gonzalez retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after serving 22 years in the U.S. Army. He holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico. He is a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt from the University of Texas in Austin.

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