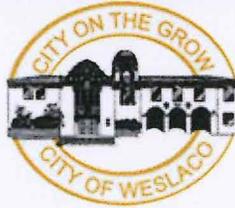


# City of Weslaco

"The City on the Grow"



Miguel D. Wise, Mayor  
John F. Cuellar, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 2  
Robert J. Garza, Commissioner, District 1  
Olga M. Noriega, Commissioner, District 3  
Gerardo "Jerry" Tafolla, Commissioner, District 4  
Lupe V. Rivera, Commissioner, District 5  
Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner, District 6

Leonardo Olivares, City Manager

## Press Release

**Release on:**  
October 21, 2011

**Contact:**  
Leonardo Olivares, City Manager  
956.973.3110

### **Police Chief Sifuentes Voluntarily Resigns; Lt. Michael Kelley Named Interim**

Weslaco, TX — On October 17, Police Chief Juan P. Sifuentes voluntarily tendered his resignation with the Weslaco Police Department, effective October 28.

"Chief Sifuentes tendered his two-weeks notice, citing personal reasons," said City Manager Leonardo Olivares. "During his service to Weslaco he has mobilized resources to the frontlines, increased productivity and improved accountability for the Police Department since starting this February. He has acted bravely and performed consistently as a true professional."

Chief Sifuentes' resignation follows allegations by unnamed members of the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas (CLEAT) regarding his conduct in response to the robbery of the La Joya Credit Union on Friday, September 17, 2011. Following an internal investigation in accordance with Article V Section 19 of its Home Rule Charter, the Weslaco City Commission publically characterized the allegations as "unfortunate," adding their findings of the Chief's conduct during and following the incident in adherence to policy protocol, as well as demonstrative of brave leadership and honorable regard for the safety of Weslaco citizens.

Olivares implemented a transition plan following the resignation, appointing Lt. Michael Kelley as Interim Chief of Police and initiating the job selection process. Kelley is Master Peace Officer Certified, with military service in two wars. He has risen through the ranks during his 25 years on the police force in Weslaco.

"We want to assure the public of the continuity of first-class public safety during this transition," said Olivares. "We commend Chief Sifuentes for his actions to uphold that public trust; we are confident in the abilities of Interim Chief Kelley to do the same for the citizens of Weslaco."

-End-

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Leonardo Olivares, City Manager

## Media Advisory

**Release on:**  
October 21, 2011

**Contact:**  
Leonardo Olivares, City Manager  
956.973.3110

### City Announces Transition for Weslaco Police Department

- Who:** City Manager, Leonardo Olivares
- What:** Announcement regarding management transition at the Weslaco Police Department
- Where:** Office of the Mayor  
Weslaco City Hall  
255 South Kansas Avenue  
Weslaco, Texas 78596
- When:** Friday, October 21, 2011  
2:00 p.m.