

By: Carter

H.R. No. 918

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Dallas County Sheriff's Department has been an
2 instrumental and successful leader in the state's fight to curb
3 illegal emissions inspection activities; and

4 WHEREAS, Concerned about the impact of fraudulent emissions
5 inspections on air quality, the North Central Texas Council of
6 Governments, in conjunction with Dallas County, created the
7 Regional Emissions Enforcement Program to assist local law
8 enforcement personnel in combatting such illicit activity; the
9 program is based on a comprehensive approach that includes on-road
10 enforcement, covert operations, prosecution of offenders, and
11 collaboration among agencies, including the Texas Commission on
12 Environmental Quality, the Department of Public Safety, and the
13 Attorney General's Office; and

14 WHEREAS, A product of this teamwork, the NCTCOG Emissions
15 Database, is now an operational tool for officers in the field, a
16 resource that provides them with 24/7 access to emissions records;
17 equipped with this aid, the Dallas County Sheriff's Department has
18 worked to identify counterfeit inspection certificates, auto
19 dealerships that offer falsely certified vehicles, and simulators
20 substituting for real emissions analysis equipment; so effective
21 have been the department's efforts that the Regional Emissions
22 Enforcement Program was recognized with a 2010 Clean Air Excellence
23 Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; moreover, the
24 department's detection of fraudulent emissions inspection activity

1 has often led to the uncovering of related crimes, including money
2 laundering, drugs and weapons trafficking, and human trafficking;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The exemplary dedication and hard work of the Dallas
5 County Sheriff's Department have played a notable role in curbing
6 emissions and improving air quality in the North Central Texas
7 region, and the recognition bestowed by the EPA is a resounding
8 testament to the clear impact of the department's endeavors; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
11 Legislature hereby honor the Dallas County Sheriff's Department for
12 its contributions to regional emissions enforcement and extend to
13 all those involved in this worthy endeavor sincere best wishes for
14 continued success; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the Dallas County Sheriff's Department as an
17 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.