

AGENDA ITEM 8.E.

RE: Approval of Associate of Science in Criminal Justice

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends the approval of an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice Degree.

BACKGROUND: The proposed **Associate of Science in Criminal Justice** addresses a documented academic and workforce need within the Laredo and Webb County region by providing a **transfer-focused pathway** for students seeking to continue toward baccalaureate degrees in criminal justice, and related disciplines. The program expands access for students who require a **university-aligned academic degree** rather than an applied workforce credential, thereby strengthening student transfer success and time-to-degree completion. Internal curriculum processes were followed to approve the **Associate of Science in Criminal Justice** curriculum, including formal proposal documentation and alignment with state-approved program requirements.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS: None, the proposed award will maintain the allotted resources currently in place for the existing Criminal Justice award.

CONTACT PERSONS:

Dr. Minita Ramirez, President

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Heriberto Hernandez, Associate Provost