



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE

LUBBOCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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Curtis Parrish
County Judge

July 28, 2025

Houston Bruck
Deputy Administrator for Farm Loan Programs
USDA Farm Service Agency
Stop 0520
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250-0520

Dear Mr. Bruck:

This letter is to formally request recertification of Lubbock County as the Certified Mediation Program for Texas. This request is made in accordance with Section 501 (c) of Title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 510) for fiscal year 2026. I hereby certify that Lubbock County's mediation services as described in our application comply with 7 CFR 785.3 (b), 7 CFR 785.2.6, and Public Law 115-334.

Our request for FY26 includes funds to continue our collaboration with the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Department of Agriculture. We will continue serving persons, courts, state/federal agencies, businesses, and others in rural agricultural communities. Examples of possible issues to be addressed as authorized by the 2018 Agricultural Improvement Act include, but not limited to:

- Compliance with USDA Programs
- Agricultural Credit/Debt from USDA or funders, such as, banks, credit unions, credit cards
- Leases (land, equipment, housing, vehicles, etc.)
- Family transitions (estate planning, guardianship/alternatives to guardianship, probate, etc.)
- Neighbor disputes (zoning, noise, nuisance, trespassing, etc.)
- Organic crops
- Related family member controversies
- Land boundary disputes
- Pesticide infringement
- Rural housing including landlord/tenant
- Rural business grants/loans from federal, state, or private sources
- Rural water loan programs from federal, state, or private sources
- Civil rights
- Other issues authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture
 - The Commissioner for the Texas Department of Agriculture, Sid Miller, has authorized services be provided to all residents of rural counties/municipalities.

Texas Rural Mediation Services™ will provide mediation, credit counseling, and other services in accordance with CFR 785, applicable statutes and regulations. Our state has 207 rural counties and more than 250,000 farms and ranches with over 3 million citizens living in Rural Texas. With appropriate

funding, we anticipate being able to educate, market, and serve this vast population with in-person or virtual services. The state USDA offices and Texas Department of Agriculture will be assisting with this initiative.

We also request a carryover of any unused federal grant funds from FY2025 to FY2026, pursuant to Section 3016.23 of 7 CFR Part 3016 and Section 785.7 (e) (1) of 7 CFR Part 785.

I respectfully submit our annual request for recertification of the Certified Mediation Program for Texas.

Sincerely,

Curtis Parrish
County Judge

CC: Governor Greg Abbott
Commissioner Sid Miller
Senator Charles Perry