

City of Laredo



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

October 31, 2024 / Vol 16



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ROBERTO SALINAS

Name you like to go by: Robert

Department you work in: Health

Department, Tuberculosis Clinic

Job title: RN Supervisor

Office number: 795-43377

Email: rjsalinas@ci.laredo.tx.us

ROBERTO SALINAS HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Tell us about your career journey and what lead you to work for the City of Laredo?

I have worked as an RN for 30 years, with most of my career spent at local inpatient hospitals, primarily on medical-surgical telemetry units. I was looking for a change of pace, so in November 2020, I began working for the Public Health Department.

What inspired you to work for the City of Laredo?

Working here has allowed me to help prevent the spread of serious diseases while empowering individuals to take control of their health. It's been incredibly rewarding to see patients complete their treatment and contribute to healthier communities in Laredo.

What is the one thing that you wish you were "brave" enough to do?

I wish I were brave enough to go skydiving, but jumping out of a perfectly good plane never seems like a great idea.

What advice would you give to a new City of Laredo employee?

Stay patient and adaptable. Focus on building strong relationships with the community, as trust and communication are key to making a lasting impact.

Who is your "role model" and what have you learned from them?

My wife. Her perseverance in everything she does, despite difficulties, exemplifies resilience, grit, and tenacity in achieving her goals.

What is one song you cannot get out of your head because you just "love it" so much?

My mind is filled with music, making it impossible to choose just one.

What's your favorite sports team to root for?

I prefer boxing and follow multiple weight classes and fighters.

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GABRIELA RENTERIA

Name you like to go by: Gaby

Department you work in: *Traffic Safety Division*

Job title: *Administrative Assistant*

Office number: 795-2550

Email: *grenteria@ci.laredo.tx.us*

GABRIELA RENTERIA TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

Tell us about your family

I am a blessed mother of 2, Victoria and Andre. I've been married for 19 years to my husband David. As a family we love to travel and make memories.

What inspired you to work for the City of Laredo?

I worked for Forwarding Agencies for 8 Years, and while I was gaining valuable experience, I was seeking for new challenges and opportunities to grow. I applied for this position in different Departments at the City and luckily got a call from Traffic Safety Department.

Who is your "role model" and what have you learned from them?

My mom is my role model she inspires and motivates me to grow without any barriers.

What three words would your friends use to describe you?

Responsible, honest, creative.

What advice would you give to a new City of Laredo employee?

Be Curious to learn, don't judge others, develop interpersonal skills, communicate clearly.

What is the one thing that you wish you were "brave" enough to do?

Delivering a speech to a live audience.

What is a quote that you find yourself using or referring to often?

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"
Phil, 4:13

What are three things still on your bucket list?

Travel to Europe
Run a marathon
Learn a new skill

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ANTONIO ALEJANDRO VILCHIS BUILDING DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

What do you love most about your job?

I found out that I really like assisting people; since I used to be the person who applied for the Building Permits when I was working in the private sector, I understand the pressure or frustration that some of them may have as you need to ensure that your project is within compliance with the locals Ordinances and International Codes within a tight timeframe. I'm always open to answer their questions and to clarify anything they ask for.

What inspired you to work for the City of Laredo?

The opportunity to work in a government position.

What three words would your friends use to describe you?

Patient, workaholic, and sometime clumsy.

Tell us about your family

Since September, my wife and me have been blessed with a beautiful girl.

If you had a "magic wond". unlimited time and endless money, what is the vacation of your dreams?

I would like to do a "Theme-Park World Tour". From the well-known Disney World to Efteling in the Netherlands. I really enjoy theme parks, so it would be great to visit the best theme parks that every country has to offer.

What's one song you have completely memorized or one song you cannot get out of your head because you just "love it" so much?

The entire OST of The Nightmare Before Christmas movie. One of my favorite movies since I was a little child, and I love Danny Elfman's music.

What are three things still on your bucket list?

- Produce a stop-motion short.
- Write and publish a novel.
- To camp alone in a National Park.



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ANTONIO VILCHIS

Name you like to go by: Vilchis

Department you work in: *Building*

Job title: Building Plans Examiner

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