

Hon Anthony J. Principi

January 31, 2026

It is my honor to offer my strongest endorsement of Al Poteet for County Judge — Bosque County, Texas.

I have known Al Poteet as a man of character, discipline, and decisive leadership — qualities forged through a lifetime of service to this nation and consistently demonstrated in senior executive roles at the highest levels of government and private enterprise.

As a decorated combat Army aviator and service-disabled veteran, Al understands responsibility not as a slogan, but as a duty. That sense of duty followed him beyond uniformed service and into national leadership roles that required judgment, integrity, and the ability to lead complex organizations under pressure.

During the Reagan Administration, Al served as Deputy Assistant Secretary, where he worked at the intersection of federal policy, executive management, and accountability to the public. He later went on to serve as Executive Director of a Presidential Task Force, coordinating multi-agency efforts, managing competing interests, and delivering results in an environment where failure was not an option.

That role demanded exactly what effective county leadership requires today: clear priorities, exemplary communication skills, fiscal discipline, transparency, and making hard decisions.

Al's leadership experience extends well beyond government. As CEO of Humana Veterans Healthcare Services, he was responsible for large-scale healthcare delivery to veterans — overseeing budgets, operations, compliance, and outcomes affecting tens of thousands of lives. Running a complex healthcare organization is not theoretical leadership; it is hands-on executive management, with real consequences for performance, efficiency, and stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

Throughout his career — as the Waco and Oakland VA Regional Office Director, statewide Medical Center Director, corporate executive, and Republican Party leader — Al Poteet has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to service, conservative principles, and results-driven leadership. He understands how systems work, how they fail, and most importantly, how to fix them.

County Judge is not an entry-level position. It demands leadership, executive experience, the ability to manage people and budgets, and the backbone to stand firm when the going gets tough. Al Poteet brings all of that, along with a proven record of leadership at the highest levels of responsibility.

I am confident that Al Poteet will serve with integrity, strength, and unwavering dedication to the citizens he represents. As a former member of both President George H.W. Bush and President George W. Bush's Cabinet as Secretary of Veterans Affairs, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and combat veteran, I have a deep understanding for the attributes that define a man of high moral character, integrity, and strong leadership.

Al Poteet is such a man. Please cast your vote for him as your County Judge in the Republican Primary election on March 3, 2026.

Respectfully,

Anthony J Principi

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Secretary of Veterans Affairs 2001 - 2005