



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

A fan takes a cell-phone photo as Houston offensive lineman Shamar Hobby-Lee (58) reacts after a game-winning 'Hail Mary' pass seals a victory for Houston and fans storm the field following an NCAA college football game between the Houston Cougars and the West Virginia Mountaineers on October 12, 2023. Houston won, 41-39.

# UH hires Eddie Nuñez as new Athletic Director

## STAFF REPORT

Eddie Nuñez has been named Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Houston, joining the Cougars after successfully holding leadership positions at the University of New Mexico and LSU. Nuñez most recently served as Vice President/Director of Athletics at UNM. He emerged as the leading candidate after an extensive national search that prioritized finding an innovative leader capable of building a nationally competitive, financially strong program during a transformative time.

Nuñez was formally introduced as Athletics Director by UH President Renu Khator and Board of Regents Chairman Tilman Fertitta at a press conference on Aug. 21, at noon in the TDECU Stadium Club.

"Eddie Nuñez brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record of success during a time of great transformation in college athletics," said President Renu Khator. "His leadership will be critical as we continue to elevate our athletics programs, enhance the student-athlete experience and build on the tremendous momentum at the University of Houston."

"Eddie has demonstrated incredible tenacity and leadership during his many years at LSU and as AD at New Mexico. He knows how to manage complex issues and solve problems," said Fertitta. "He joins a strong Cougars program with great head coaches already in place which will allow him to focus on raising revenue and planning for the future of UH Athletics."

During his tenure at UNM, Nuñez oversaw significant success both on and off the field. Under his leadership, the Lobos secured 53 NCAA Tournament appearances, 22 Mountain West Conference titles, and numerous academic accolades, including leading the Mountain West in academic honors. He also spearheaded the development of the New Mexico Mutual Champions Training Center and restructured key partnerships to ensure the long-term financial success of UNM Athletics.

"I am incredibly honored to join the University of Houston and lead the Cougars during this exciting time," said Nuñez. "I look forward to building on UH's strong foundation of athletic and academic excellence, and I am committed to providing our student-athletes with the resources and support they need to succeed both on the field and in the classroom. I want to personally thank President Khator and Chairman Fertitta for their trust and the incredible opportunity."

Nuñez also brings Power 5 experience from his 14 years at LSU, where he oversaw



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Houston fans cheer during a Big 12 Conference football game between the Houston Cougars and the Texas Longhorns on October 21, 2023 in Houston, Texas won, 31-24.

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—EDDIE NUÑEZ.

Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics at the University of Houston

\$400 million in facility renovations and construction and led the renegotiation of a 10-year multimedia rights agreement.

"Eddie has spent much of his career living just few hours away in Baton Rouge, so he knows Houston and has many connections to the city. I know he will hit the ground running," added Fertitta.

A former college athlete, Nuñez played basketball at the University of Florida and served as a graduate assistant at Florida before beginning his administrative career at Vanderbilt University. He holds degrees from Miami-Dade Community College and the University of Florida and is married to Jane Hess, with whom he has two daughters, Elizabeth and Anna.

"I am incredibly excited for Eddie, whom I have known for close to 30 years, and University of Houston. This is an outstanding hire in my opinion. Eddie is an incredibly talented administrator with a wealth of experience," said University of Florida Director of Athletics Jeremy Foley. "He is an even better person, and he will do an excellent job leading the Houston program."



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A general view of a sold-out TDECU Stadium during a Big 12 Conference football game between the Houston Cougars and the Texas Longhorns on October 21, 2023 in Houston, Texas won, 31-24.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.496021 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the Commissioners Court of Waller County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.496021 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.492082 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.511316 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Waller County from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Waller County may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Waller County is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM at the Waller County Joe Kuciemba Annex located at 425 FM 1488 in Hempstead, Texas 77445.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Waller County is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Commissioners Court of Waller County at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:  
AGAINST the proposal:  
PRESENT and not voting:  
ABSENT:

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County, Texas this year.

	2023	2024	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	\$0.522943	\$0.496021	decrease of -0.026922 per \$100 or -5.15%
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$243,850	\$275,614	increase of 13.03%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$1,275.20	\$1,367.10	increase of 91.90, or 7.21%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$58,000,498	\$62,676,286	increase of 4,675,788, or 8.06%

### No-New-Revenue Maintenance and Operations Rate Adjustments

#### Indigent Health Care Compensation Expenditures

The Waller County spent \$205,573 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 on indigent health care compensation expenditures at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$55,606. This increased the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate by \$0.000475/\$100.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the Tax Assessor for Waller County at 730 9th Street in Hempstead Texas 77445, phone 979-826-7620, email: [e.shelburne-tax@wallercounty.us](mailto:e.shelburne-tax@wallercounty.us) or visit <https://www.co.waller.tx.us/page/TAC.Main> for more information.



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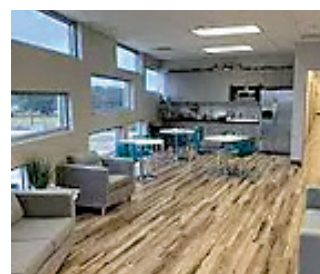
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