Please fill out form and mail with check to RSICTRE, PO Box 3882, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3882

Do you want your name/photo on the court's website and/or Social Media page(s): I want to pledge membership and will pay \$50 annual dues each reign or \$5 per month. I want to volunteer with projects, fundraising, special events and donate items as needed do not want membership but would like to support by contributing \$ **Birth Month** Yes or Zip Code

Membership Application for The Royal Sovereign & Imperial Court of Texas Riviera Empire

The Imperial Court System

The Royal Sovereign Imperial **Court of the Texas Riviera Empire** (TRE), Inc. belongs to an international organization, which includes over 68 Imperial Court and Ducal Kingdoms. These kingdoms reach from Canada to Mexico; from the west coast to east coast; and from the shores of Hawaii to the shores of Alaska.

In 1965, José Sarria, the USA's first openly gay political candidate for office in San Francisco, California founded the Imperial Court System (ICS). José was also a singer, performer, female impersonator and social & political activist.

In 1964, the Tavern Guild of San Francisco named José, "Queen of the Ball". However, José declared that he had always been a queen & therefore, he could not be named queen again. Thus he dubbed himself, "Empress José The First, The Widow Norton" (drawing upon the legend of **Emperor Norton of San Francisco).** José has set the Imperial Court standard of humor, heart and humanitarianism that governs the ICS.

Today, the Imperial Court System is the largest Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender & Allied organization in the country, second only to Metropolitan Community Churches.





Royal Sovereign **Imperial Court** of the Texas Riviera Empire, Inc.

36 years of Local Noble **Deeds**

Who Are We?

The Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of the Texas Riviera Empire (TRE), Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, which is governed by an elected Board of Directors and represented by a Emperor and/or Empress each reign year. The office of the Emperor and/or Empress are filled by individuals who spend their reign year overseeing the fundraising efforts of the organization.

TRE was established as an organization that would serve the people of the City of Corpus Christi, Texas and surrounding areas by conducting projects of a public community service or charitable nature benefiting legitimate charities. In so doing these projects, we can and will provide social opportunities for the benefit , pleasure & entertainment of the people of Corpus Christi, surrounding regions & the members of TRE Inc.

In 1985, a group of individuals decided that the area surrounding Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend needed to experience José Sarria's vision of royalty & community fundraising. With their guidance, TRE has grown into what is now considered the premier fundraising organization in the Corpus Christi area for the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender & Allied community.

TRE provides an outlet for people of various ethnicities, genders & sexual orientation to raise money & have fun in the process! Since it's inception, TRE has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for many different charities in & out of the City of Corpus Christi.

The Texas Riviera Empire continues to support many different organizations in & out of Corpus Christi. With the membership encompassing all over South Texas, TRE is truly an organization of & for the people of our great area.

Who Is Money Raised For?

Today, the Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of the Texas Riviera Empire, Inc. serves the needs of 18 counties in Southern Texas. TRE raises money for organizations such as, Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation, Communities In School, The Rainbow Room, CASA of the Coastal Bend, American Cancer Society, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), The Trevor Project, Harvey Milk Foundation, Matthew Shepard Foundation and many other not-for-profit organizations.

The Texas Riviera Empire hosts many different types of events & fundraisers throughout the year. Events range from shows, cookouts, black tie galas & raffles. Any type of social event that raises money can & will be considered for future use by the Texas Riviera Empire.

With annual gala fundraisers such as, Christmas for the Kids, Decade Show, Red Party, and Coronation, money is quickly raised for viable & needy charities throughout the areas that the Texas Riviera Empire serves.

What Can YOU Do?

The Texas Riviera Empire is open to anyone who wishes to join.

There are many different opportunities for anyone to get involved in within TRE, depending on your own individual talents, desires & time constraints.

The benefits of the Texas Riviera Empire membership and involvement are many! YOU have a chance to help make a difference, one dollar at a time, in someone else's life while making a difference in your own! YOU have the chance to have your voice heard & to be recognized for what you accomplish!

There is a true sense of family with the Texas Riviera Empire. It doesn't matter if you are a corporate executive, a student, or even someone who is out or not. As a member of the Texas Riviera Empire, <u>YOU</u> can help the needs of the people in the 18 counties of Southern Texas and beyond.

The Texas Riviera Empire is our members, which includes the Emperors, Empresses, Princes, Princesses, Dukes, Duchesses & many other uncommon courtiers who are glamorous, have fun, proud of who they are & challenge other to join them! We need people like <u>YOU</u> to help entertain, raise funds, host cookouts, staff coronation events, help create advertisements, help recruit new members and much, much more.

Want to Know More?

Please check out our amazing web site at www.texasrivieraempire.org For upcoming events and much more!

or

Please write to us at:

RSIC of the Texas Riviera Empire, Inc.

P.O. Box 3882, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3882