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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SOUTH PADRE ISLAND WATERS SAFE TO SWIM**

**South Padre Island, TX – August 4, 2015:** Recent reports regarding high levels of bacteria in the waters along several Texas beaches has left many wondering how this has affected the waters along South Padre Island.

The City of South Padre Island receives weekly reports regarding the safety of our water from the University of Texas Pan-American Coastal Studies Laboratory. The UTPA Coastal Studies Laboratory tests several locations along the island, and to date have not had a sample come back with high enough levels of bacteria to trigger a warning.

The City of South Padre Island and Cameron County beach accesses are open and remain clear of the high bacteria levels affecting north Texas beaches. Visitors to South Padre Island beaches are always encouraged to check the conditions of the surf using the flag system, which indicates daily conditions on the beach. Swimmers and beachgoers can also keep up to date with water quality by visiting the Texas General Land Offices beach watch website at: <http://www.texasbeachwatch.com>. “Utilizing the beach watch program gives me the confidence to bring my young family out to the beach, and I’d encourage others to do the same,” said SPI Coastal Resources & Parks Administrator Rueben Trevino.

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