



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, I am pleased to welcome you all to the El Paso Mission Trail Association's reenactment, "First Thanksgiving – Pass to the American Dream."

More than 400 years ago, Spanish conquistador Juan de Oñate led an expedition of 500 people through the Chihuahuan Desert along the Rio Grande to discover new lands. After enduring a long and horrendous journey, Spanish settlers reached their destination, El Paso del Norte, and the people held a day of thanksgiving with the natives of the region.

This day is part of Texas and American history and marks the beginning of Spanish colonization in the Southwest. I join you in honoring the perseverance and tenacity of the region's settlers as you reenact this historical event.

First Lady Anita Perry joins me in wishing you the best for an enjoyable celebration and conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Perry
Governor