



Dr. Andrés Tijerina

Professor of History at Austin Community College

andrest@austincc.edu

Tejano Monument

Vice-President, Executive Committee

<http://www.tejanos.com>

Andrés Tijerina is a Professor of History at Austin Community College. A native of Ozona, Texas and a 1963 graduate of San Angelo Central High, he married Juanita Garcia of San Diego, Texas, and now lives in Austin. He received his B.A. Degree in Modern Languages from Texas A&M University (1967), an M.A. Degree in History from Texas Tech University (1973), and a Ph.D. Degree in U.S. History from the University of Texas (1977).

Dr. Tijerina has taught U.S. History at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas Tech, and the University of Texas at Austin, and at San Antonio. He has served as a state agency Executive Director of the Texas Good Neighbor Commission and a group manager for Motorola, Inc., where he managed the Employee Communications Group in Austin.

Dr. Tijerina's award-winning book, *Tejanos and Texas Under the Mexican Flag*, published by Texas A&M University Press, reviews the Mexican heritage of Texas, and won three state book prizes, including the *Presidio La Bahía Award* from the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the *Kate Broocks Bates Award* from the Texas State Historical Association, and the T.R. Fehrenbach Award from the Texas Historical Commission. In addition, it was selected for a national award from the American Association for State And Local History, and it was named by the American Library Association to its CHOICE list of Academic Books in America for 1996. Another book, *Tejano Empire: Life on the South Texas Ranchos*, was published in 1998 also by Texas A&M University Press, and won the Heritage Book Award from the Webb County Heritage Foundation. Dr. Tijerina's most widely read work is the publication of his Vietnam War memoirs in the final volume of the *Time-Life Books* series *The Vietnam Experience*. His memoirs are included in the volume entitled *A War Remembered*. As a pilot in the Air Force, Dr. Tijerina flew over 100 combat missions in Vietnam, receiving the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He retired as a Major of the U.S. Air Force, where he served as the Liaison Officer for the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

He has co-authored several other books and regularly writes book reviews for the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* and the *American Historical Review*. He has received Teaching Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) in 2000, and from the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society in 1999 and 2002. Dr. Tijerina is a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and a fellow of the Texas State Historical Association. He is co-founder of the committee to erect the Tejano Monument on the state capitol grounds, and founding chairman of the Texas State Hispanic Genealogy Conference, meeting annually since 1979. Dr. Tijerina has been appointed as General Editor for the Spencer Book Series for Texas A&M University Press. He was recently appointed by Governor Rick Perry to the Historical Representation Advisory Committee and is a member of the Review Board for the Texas Historical Commission. He is frequently called on as a speaker and as a consultant for historical events and organizations.