



# CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

**Julián Castro**  
Mayor

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## **Castro, youngest American big city mayor, takes office with bold plans, family perspective**

Personally thanking uniformed and civilian city workers for their invaluable service, Mayor Julián Castro entered office today focused on getting the city through a tough budget cycle and spurring more job creation.

“Great cities need great, committed people – and fortunately we have that with City Manager Sheryl Sculley and every dedicated city employee who is devoted to this community and to public service,” Castro said.

Castro, who at 34 is the youngest big city mayor in the nation, said he wants to send a message that San Antonio won’t just continue the momentum that has fueled new local job growth in a down economy. The mayor is committed to using innovative ideas to accelerate economic development while expanding access to educational opportunity.

“A recent Federal Reserve report sounded a cautionary note about our need to raise the educational level of the local work force,” Castro said. “The powers of the mayor’s office may be limited when it comes to education policy, but they are still significant.

“I want a new generation of San Antonio students to have the same opportunities I had,” said Castro, a Jefferson High School graduate who holds degrees from Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

After visiting police officers and road crews in the morning, Castro is scheduled to have lunch with top city officials, including Sculley, Fire Chief Charles Hood, Police Chief William McManus, SAWS CEO Robert Puente and CPS interim General Manager Steve Bartley.

Castro said the gathering is a testament to his desire to hit the ground running on the most significant issues facing the city — maintaining a high quality of life, improving police and fire protection and diversifying the area’s sources of water and energy.

The mayor added that he planned to take a page from the administration of Mayor Phil Hardberger, who served two distinguished terms.

“Mayor Hardberger left us with a great roadmap for policy success as well as a legacy of how to balance family life while dealing with the rigors of the mayor’s office,” Castro said.

A new father to 11-week-old Carina, Castro said he and his staff have plans to work hard and work smart without losing sight of one of San Antonio’s greatest qualities – its culture of valuing family. As he enters office, Castro has instructed his staff, whenever possible, to leave Friday evenings open for family time with his schoolteacher wife, Erica, and Carina.