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Questions Arise Concerning Alleged False Statement in Vera Ethics Violation Case

District Attorney Gocha Ramirez urged to review evidence, open criminal investigation

AUSTIN, TX – Starr County Judge Eloy Vera apparently gave false information in a sworn statement to the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) during its investigation into Vera’s violations of Texas campaign finance and ethics laws.

#ProjectRedTX last week provided related documents to District Attorney Gocha Ramirez, formally requesting that he uphold his oath of office and initiate an investigation of Vera.

“The Texas Ethics Commission not only found that Vera committed an array of campaign ethics violations,” said Wayne Hamilton of #ProjectRedTX, “now we see that he appears to have made a false statement in a sworn statement during the investigation. We look forward to District Attorney Ramirez’ aggressive action in this matter.”

In public documents recently released by the TEC, Vera was found to have violated Texas Election Code laws, including using public taxpayer funds for political advertising and failing to file campaign finance reports.

The documents also indicate Vera “swore that he had accepted no campaign contributions or authorized no campaign expenditures during the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.”

If Vera’s statement is true, the office of County Judge is vacated because he never signed up to run or paid the required filing fee. If Vera in fact paid the filing fee, then the statement is false as he made at least one political expenditure during that timeframe. A filing fee is by definition a reportable campaign expenditure even if it was paid with Vera’s own money.

Aggravated perjury is punishable as a third-degree felony in Texas. To read the full TEC order, or for more information, visit projectredtx.com.

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