

July 18, 2023

Gocha Ramirez District Attorney 229<sup>th</sup> Judicial District 401 N. Britton Avenue Rio Grande City, TX 78582

Re: Eloy Vera

Mr. Ramirez:

I am writing to request that you open an investigation into Starr County Judge Eloy Vera.

As evidenced by the attached Order and Agreed Resolution ("the Order") between the Texas Ethics Commission and Eloy Vera, the Texas Ethics Commission determined that Vera committed an array of legal violations. However, the Order also provides direct evidence that Vera has committed aggravated perjury in violation of Texas Penal Code 37.03.

Paragraph 15 of the Order clearly states that Vera "swore that he had accepted no campaign contributions and made or authorized no campaign expenditures during the period from January 1,2020, through December 31, 2021." However, in December 2021, Vera submitted a filing fee with his application for a place on the 2022 primary ballot. The payment of a filing fee is, by definition, a campaign expenditure. His sworn statement was not only false, but material to an official proceeding, making it a third-degree felony.

I urge you to uphold your oath of office and initiate an investigation of Eloy Vera. If you need any additional information or assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my counsel Ross Fischer at (512) 587-5995 or ross@rossfischer.law.

Sincerely,

Patrick W. Hamilton