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CONTACT: #ProjectRedTX

info@projectredtx.com

Illegal Vote Harvesting Activity Alleged in Starr County

Local political operative Modesta Vela admits to ballot harvesting activity in recorded call

AUSTIN, TX – A complaint filed with the Texas Secretary of State for investigation asserts that political operative Modesta Vela of Roma, Texas last week entered a voter’s home, filled out the person’s mail ballot, and left the home in possession of the ballot.

Vela has told people that she is working on behalf of Starr County Judge Eloy Vera’s campaign.

Photographic evidence shows Vela leaving the property, an on-camera interview with the voter describes what happened, and in a recorded phone call with Vela after leaving the home, she admits to taking the ballot with her.

Multiple laws within the Texas Election Code were allegedly violated in this instance, including influencing the independent exercise of the vote of another in the presence of the ballot (Sec. 276.013), illegal possession of a mail ballot or carrier envelope as part of a vote harvesting operation (Sec. 276.015), and illegal compensation for carrier envelope action (Sec. 86.0052).

Ballot harvesting is a felony offense under Texas law. #ProjectRedTX has requested evidence of all involved offenses be turned over to the Office of the Attorney General for investigation and prosecution.

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