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FEB 13 1998

SENATOR EDDIE LUCIO JR.
DISTRICT 27

CAPITOL BUILDING, GE.4
P.O. BOX 12068
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
(512) 463-0127
FAX (512) 463-0061
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The Senate of
The State of Texas

GOVERNMENTAL INQUIRY
UNIT

DISTRICT OFFICES:
33 NORTH PARK PLAZA
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS 78520
(210) 548-0227
FAX (210) 548-0440

ONE PARK PLACE, SUITE 530
100 SAVANNAH
MCALLEN, TEXAS 78501
(210) 686-0127
FAX (210) 686-2231

February 11, 1998

FILE # ML-40081-98
I.D. # 40081

The Honorable Dan Morales
Attorney General
The State of Texas
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, Texas 78711

RQ-1083

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FEB 17 1998

Opinion Committee

Dear General Morales:

On behalf of my constituents, I am writing to inquire about a matter in need of immediate attention. Recently, the citizens of Cameron County have contacted me expressing their concerns over whether a Cameron County Judge may continue to practice law in the same county where he is the Chief Budget Officer. My constituents are requesting guidance as to both the legal and ethical questions this situation raises.

An opinion from you on this matter would be extremely helpful to the citizens of Cameron County and greatly appreciated. I thank you for your assistance and look forward to hearing from your office.

Sincerely,

Eddie Lucio, Jr.
Eddie Lucio, Jr.
State Senator



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE & TECHNOLOGY

REDISTRICTING, ETHICS, AND ELECTIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CHAIR

THE TEXAS SENATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN,
SEX, RELIGION, AGE OR DISABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES.

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SEN. EDDIE LUCIO

FEB 03 1998

Routed to: _____
Filed: _____
Office: A (B) M

*Mr. Clark Owen
534 Sunshine
Brownsville, Texas 78521*

January 30, 1998

Hon. Eddie Lucio, Jr.
State Senator
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Senator Lucio:

As a concerned citizen, constituent, and someone who has been following politics in Cameron County for many years, I am writing to you over what I perceive to be unethical conduct on the part of our Cameron County Judge, Gilbert Hinojosa. Specifically, the issue in question is whether or not it is legal, ethical and appropriate, under Texas law, for the Chief Budget Officer of a County to practice law in courts directly affected by his actions as the Chief Budget Officer.

I urge you to request an opinion from the Texas Attorney General regarding this potential conflict.

Please forward a copy of any response you may receive from the Texas Attorney General's Office regarding this matter. I would be very interested in reading his thoughts on this issue.

Sincerely,



Clark Owen
Concerned Constituent