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June 22, 2021

The Honorable Ken Paxton
Attorney General
State of Texas
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548

CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 1640 0000 9824 4962

Re: Texas Transportation Code §394

Dear Attorney General Paxton:

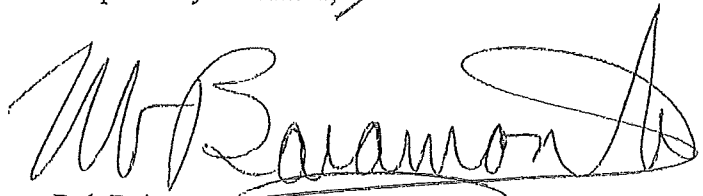
As a way of background, our County Judge declared a local state of disaster on April 21, 2021, a copy is attached. Sometime shortly after this declaration our Sheriff put up signs on U.S. Highway 59, just inside the Bee County and Goliad County line, a picture is attached. TX Dot advised our Sheriff to remove them and eventually TX Dot removed the signs off of the U.S. Hwy. 59 right-of-way.

When I look at Texas Transportation Code §394.003, herein TxTC, it appears there is an exception to the Texas Highway Beautification Act for a political subdivision of the state.

Everybody in Texas understands the federal government's failure to enforce the border between Mexico and the United States. We know about the cartels running humans and drugs into Texas. It is our position that the signs in question are there to protect life or property, TxTC §394.003(3), and are clearly erected by a political subdivision of the State, TxTC §394.003(6).

I have been unable to find any authority to give guidance on the above mentioned sections. Therefore, I am asking you to determine if Goliad County can erect signs in the highway right-of-way to meet this unprecedented situation our State is facing for the sole purpose of protecting life or property.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Baiamonte". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Rob Baiamonte
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RB/yjt

cc: Sheriff Roy Boyd
TX Dot General Counsel Ronald Johnson

