



March 26, 2019

Commissioner Tommy Calvert  
Bexar County, Pct. 4  
101 W. Nueva, Suite 1029  
San Antonio, TX 78205

Dear Commissioner Calvert:

What a disappointment it was to receive your ill-prepared letter last night at the Bexar County Democratic Party Special Meeting that was held at Eisenhower Middle School. What was even more disconcerting was this letter was hand delivered by those individuals who had been called to this meeting for disciplinary action just as we were moving into the meeting with our members. This disruption was intense, however, unsuccessful in its purpose to take our organization off course. With a properly called special disciplinary meeting we had a significant quorum that voted almost unanimously to enact the motions to discipline these people who have been determined to undermine our party and its progress to make sure voters in our community are motivated to the polls and have protections in their voting processes.

More importantly your letter is littered with misinformation. Your failure to meet with our elected Bexar County Democratic Party Chair prior to your letter addressed to the Bexar County DA (dated 3/25/19) and handed out just as we were beginning our very important meeting was unprofessional and also undermines the authority of duly elected official. Had you attended the meeting yourself you would have been shown the evidence regarding your claim that the BCDP is wrongfully purging precinct chairs. The Chair addressed that issue specifically as five (5) individuals had RESIGNED and twelve (12) voters were deemed ineligible to legally serve as a Precinct Chair because they didn't LIVE in their precinct as required by law. In fact both of the samples you provided fall under the ineligibility. Ms. Edna Felan actually ran for precinct chair in the last election, challenging a standing precinct chair Mr. Galvan, using a business address which was approved by Manuel Medina. She was removed when it was discovered she didn't actually live and vote at that residence and the previous chair applied for her vacancy.

Texas Election Code 171.023. RESIDENCE OF PRECINCT CHAIR. (a) To be eligible to be a candidate for or to serve as a precinct chair, a person must reside in the election precinct in addition to satisfying the other applicable eligibility requirements.

Since you failed to meet with the County Chair Monica Alcantara or the Precinct Chair Training and Recruitment Committee you have not done your due diligence to understand the very extensive process we have in place to find, recruit, vet, and forward to the Chair for her review. I am on that committee and actively work to find open precincts so that we can find active Democrats to serve as Precinct Chairs. Our system includes intake records via a shared Google Drive document. Were you shown that document? We have a multi-step vetting checklist that verifies the form is completely filled out, address verification via voter registration, voter record review to verify last primary voting in the Democratic Primary election which is a requirement of TDP rules. Once approved by committee vote, we forward these candidates to the Chairwoman for her review. She is the sole decision maker on appointments as the Rules say that she MAY Appoint a precinct chair. We have not forwarded (by majority vote of our committee) persons who have been belligerent in previous meetings or have threatened the Chair. We only want those who support the work of the party.



What I can tell you is that Emilio Pena, the former co-chair of the PCTRC Committee, has submitted incomplete applications, used 4 year old applications that are no longer valid from the SOS office, submitted applicants that fail the vetting process due to ineligibility for not actually being registered to vote, not a resident of the precinct or have only voted in Republican Primaries. He has also not left those applications in the possession of the committee or the party and he carries around stacks of applications that haven't properly been filed with the committee. We have NO WAY of knowing where you get your statistics that you are using to threaten us with Civil Rights Violations.

That is the most egregious accusation you make in your letter. It is offensive for you to suggest that we have racially profiled any of our applicants. We want every PC we can find. The previous chair did very little to recruit precinct chairs beyond his power base. We have recruited FAR MORE than the 12 that have been found ineligible. And some of those have been filled with actual residents of those precincts in order to get our voters to the polls.

Another mistake you make in your letter is to say the Monica Alcantara somehow didn't declare ineligible certain candidates in the last election. She was not the Chair of the party at that time so perhaps you should admonish your friend Manuel Medina.

You mention the FBI investigation. Now that I know you are aligned with Manuel Medina, based on your letter, I would also like an explanation for the \$6,000 you received from him via Bexar County Democratic Party checks. It's extremely odd that the Party would be giving money to a candidate directly. As you know, it's usually the other way around.

You have made a grave mistake in judgement. You owe an apology to our chairwoman immediately and should send out a letter of apology to every precinct chair at your earliest convenience.

I would like you to send me the names and addresses of those you copied on your letter so that I may share my rebuttal with them directly. Please email at [REDACTED] at your earliest convenience.

In solidarity with the BCDP,

Cc: Bexar County Judge Wolff  
Bexar County Commissioners Court  
DA Joe Gonzales  
Texas Democratic Party