



**BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION  
ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

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**CJC No. 19-0146**

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**PUBLIC WARNING**

**HONORABLE DAVID SAUCEDO  
MAVERICK COUNTY JUDGE  
EAGLE PASS, MAVERICK COUNTY, TEXAS**

During its meeting on October 9-11, 2019, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct concluded a review of the allegations against the Honorable David Saucedo, Maverick County Judge, Eagle Pass, Maverick County, Texas. Judge Saucedo was advised by letter of the Commission's concerns and provided a written response. After considering the evidence before it, the Commission entered the following Findings and Conclusion:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Honorable David Saucedo was the Maverick County Judge, Eagle Pass, Maverick County, Texas.
2. During the 2018 election for the Eagle Pass Independent School District Board of Trustees (the "Board"), Judge Saucedo improperly endorsed on his Facebook page the campaign of his brother, Ignacio "Nacho" Saucedo, who was running for a position on the Board.
3. Judge Saucedo's Facebook page contained numerous posts supporting the campaign of his brother, Ignacio "Nacho" Saucedo for the Board, including political advertisements distributed by Nacho's campaign, photographs of Nacho wearing campaign t-shirts while "block walking" and passing out campaign literature, and a link to an article on EPNewsLeader.com about Nacho announcing his candidacy for the Board.
4. In his response to the Commission's inquiry, Judge Saucedo stated that the posts supporting Nacho's campaign were "done by staff and supporters," but he accepted full responsibility for their appearance on his Facebook page.

5. Judge Saucedo represented to the Commission that as a direct result of this complaint, he has changed his practice and policy with respect to Facebook.

**RELEVANT STANDARD**

1. Canon 2B of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides that a judge shall not lend the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge or others.
2. Canon 5(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct provides that a judge shall not authorize the public use of his or her name endorsing another candidate for non-judicial public office.

**CONCLUSION**

The Commission concludes from the facts and evidence presented that by maintaining a Facebook account on which materials supporting the campaign of his brother for a non-judicial public office were posted, Judge Saucedo lent the prestige of his judicial office to advance the personal interests of his brother when he publicly endorsed his brother’s candidacy, in violation of Canon 2B and Canon 5(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.


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In view of the conduct described above that violated Canons 2B and 5(2) of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, it is the Commission’s decision to issue a **PUBLIC WARNING** to the Honorable David Saucedo, Maverick County Judge, Eagle Pass, Maverick County, Texas.

Pursuant to the authority contained in Article V, §1-a (8) of the Texas Constitution, it is ordered that the actions described above be made the subject of a **PUBLIC WARNING**.

The Commission has taken this action with the intent of assisting Judge Saucedo in his continued judicial service, as well as in a continuing effort to protect public confidence in the judicial system and to assist the state’s judiciary in its efforts to embody the principles and values set forth in the Texas Constitution and the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.

Issued this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019.

  
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Honorable David C. Hall, Chair  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct