



**BEFORE THE
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

**IN RE: HONORABLE BETTY VELEZ
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 4
VAN HORN, CULBERSON COUNTY, TEXAS
CJC No. 17-0355-JP**

**VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO RESIGN FROM
JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

This Agreement is being entered into by the undersigned parties pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code.

WHEREAS at all times relevant hereto, the Honorable Betty Velez was the Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace in Van Horn, Culberson County, Texas, and

WHEREAS on December 2, 2016 a confidential complaint was filed with the Commission alleging that Judge Velez participated in a pyramid promotional scheme and collected money from a numerous amount of people pursuant to that scheme, and

WHEREAS on August 16, 2019 a duly constituted Grand Jury of the 394th Judicial District Court of Culberson County, Texas handed up an Indictment against Judge Velez for a State Jail Felony regarding said pyramid promotional scheme, and

WHEREAS on August 20, 2019 the Commission issued its Order of Suspension without pay against Judge Velez based on the above-referenced Indictment, and

WHEREAS on or about December 8, 2020, Judge Velez entered into Orders of Deferred Adjudication in two separate cases regarding said pyramid promotional scheme, on two state jail felonies and one third degree felony, predicated on her successful completion of a community supervision period of six years, and

WHEREAS the Commission believes Judge Velez has previously tendered her resignation to the Honorable Carlos G. Urias, Culberson County Judge, and

WHEREAS no Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law have been entered by the Commission in connection with the above-referenced matter, and

WHEREAS the parties agree that the allegations of judicial misconduct as stated in the indictment, if found to be true, could result in further disciplinary action against Judge Velez, and

WHEREAS the parties to this Agreement are desirous of resolving this matter without the time and expense of further disciplinary proceedings.

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that Judge Velez, upon the signing of this Agreement, has officially and formally resigned her judicial duties, and is entering into this Agreement to resolve the above-referenced complaints in lieu of disciplinary action by the Commission, pursuant to Section 33.032(h) of the Texas Government Code. The Commission agrees that it shall pursue no further disciplinary proceedings against Judge Velez in connection with the above-referenced matter.

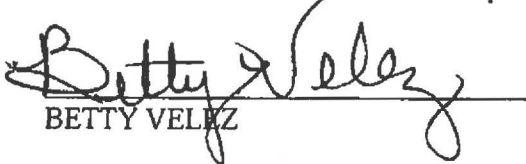
IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon the Commission's approval of this Agreement, Judge Velez shall be forever disqualified from judicial service in the State of Texas, including (a) sitting or serving as a judge, (b) standing for election or appointment to a judicial office, and/or (c) performing or exercising any judicial duties or functions of a judicial officer, including the performance of wedding ceremonies.


IT IS FURTHER AGREED that any violation of this Agreement by Judge Velez would constitute willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of his duties or casts public discredit upon the judiciary or administration of justice in violation of Art. 5, §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution, and Section 33.001(b) of the Texas Government Code.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Commission may enforce this Agreement through any legal process necessary, including injunctive relief; that Travis County, Texas, shall be the proper venue for any dispute between the parties or proceeding relating to this Agreement; and that Judge Velez, individually, shall bear the expense, cost, and any reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees in the event any dispute arising under this Agreement is decided against her by any court or tribunal.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Judge Velez, by her execution of this voluntary agreement, does not admit guilt, fault or liability regarding the matters contained in CJC No. 17-0355 JP referenced above.

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED upon its execution by the parties.


BETTY VELEZ


HON. DAVID C. HALL, CHAIR
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL
CONDUCT

Date: 4/8/2021

Date: 4/9/2021

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
ATTORNEY
FOR BETTY VELEZ

