

WILLIE S. ORTIZ

P. O. BOX 1092
SINTON, TEXAS 78387

September 12, 1966

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
1315 Bright St.
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dr. Garcia,

Sorry to bother with my problems but I do need assistance to wipe some of the discrimination that does exist in the Sinton Post Office.

I have been employed in the Post Office for 11 years 9 months. Through the years I have been gaining seniority until I became the senior clerk. With one Assistant Postmaster's retirement, another anglo took over with no trouble at all. He was ahead and there was no trouble at all. But his health was bad and all the work didn't go to him. Instead the Postmaster's choice started learning and got to learn alot of work in filling various forms etc. Now, the assistant postmaster died and as I suspected, this other guy got the job instead of me. He was number 3 in seniority. I was told right off that I was not qualified for the position and the postmaster even tried to discourage me from trying to get it. I did try but to no avail. The Postmaster has alot to do with sending in who he THINKS IS BEST QUALIFIED. I asked the Postmaster what he had done for me and he promptly said that he had done nothing.

I'm a veteran and a high school graduate. I know nearly that ~~that~~ is to be known or all that is to be learned about the post office. Right now I'm a money order clerk. But ~~this~~ Postmaster is so powerful he thinks he can get away with everything. He ~~doesn't~~ doesn't care or thinks nothing about peoples' rights. The Latin community here is or will be furious.

I have tried to live right and everything. But all this really upsets me and regardless of the outcome of this situation, I will dedicate myself to better my race in every thing I can. I have been fearfull of being in politics since I was a government employee. But look what got me for being a goody goody. When even the federal government or its' representatives practice segrgation, I almost flip.

Let me know what I can be helped by you or what you want me to do. If you want me to come over and talk more about this, I will gladly do it. Call me collect at EM4-2657 after 5:30 PM.

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I feel bad about all this. But someone has to put a halt to all this. This will be the second time the postmaster has been accused of discrimination. The other time he won but by a small margin.

What makes me more determined to fight this thing is that the man that was selected is not worth it. He is a hard to get along with and has even gotten the people mad at him. I wouldn't mind loosing to a better man, but not to him.

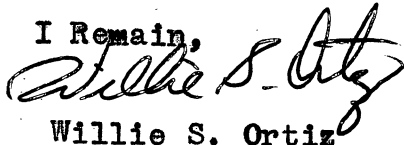
Dr. Garcia, do whatever you can for me. If you can't, I will be forever grateful to you. I realize you are a busy man.

Mr. Frank Zapata is my Father-In-Law and Joe Zapata is my Brother-In-Law. You know them well.

I'm on duty from 8 AM to 12:00 M. 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Monday through Friday

Thanking you for whatever you can do for me,

I Remain,



Willie S. Ortiz

P. S. Hope the Good Lord help you always with your good work.