

P.O. Box 229
Beeville, Tx. 78102
June 9, 1982

Abraham "Chick" Kazen, Jr
Member Of Congress
2408 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kazen:

We respectfully request your attention to a situation in Beeville, Texas, which may cause grave consequences throughout South Texas.

One of our newly-elected city councilmen, Joe Edward Hernandez, has been dismissed from a 13-year position with the US Post Office. The dismissal came after a recent city council meeting during which a 3-2 decision was made over a controversial issue. Mr. Hernandez' superior, Post Master Jane Scullawl, was one in the audience promoting action which was in opposition to Mr. Hernandez' voice and vote. Also present and speaking with Ms. Scullawl was the son of Mr. Hernandez supervisor, George Blackmon. This was the first time in her two years in Beeville, Texas, that the local post master attended a city council meeting. This was her second political involvement coming to the public attention, the first being against another Mexican-American public official, County Commissioner Adam Gonzales.

By his own admission, Mr. Hernandez has been late to work on occasion. So too have all other local postal employees been late to work, counseled and reprimanded. But none in the history of the local office have ever been dismissed for "tardiness." And no statement of dismissal proceedings based on tardiness had been presented to Mr. Hernandez either this year or any of the previous 13 years of his employment.

As concerned citizens, as elected officials and as active representatives of our community, we are deeply concerned that this blatantly political act is racially motivated, and creates further division in an already polarized community. When an employer so casually and arbitrarily dismisses a city council member who is a Mexican-American from its employee ranks following a "minority take-over" in the city, we know that any increased minority participation in the political process will be brought to a standstill.

Mr. Hernandez is following the proper grievance procedures within the post office system, including utilization of the union process. He has contacted EEOC representatives and legal counsel for further action and he has gained our total support.

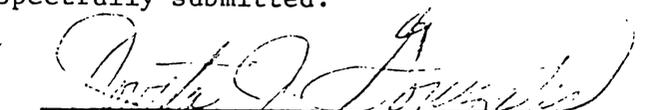
We therefore appeal to you and your colleagues to apply whatever action is within your discretion and jurisdiction. Please help us to insure the right of Joe Edward Hernandez to be treated as a first class

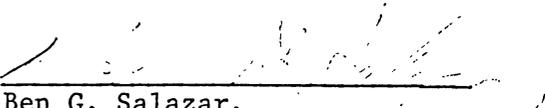
Semi-Processed Area

citizen, now and in the future.

Respectfully submitted:


Adam V. Gonzales,
Prct. One County Commissioner


Jovita J. González,
SDEC Committeewoman, 20th District

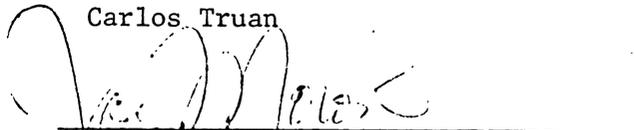

Ben G. Salazar,
Justice of the Peace

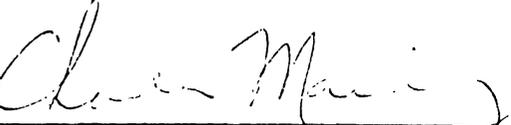

Arturo Gomez, Jr.,
Bee County Constable


Raul Garza,
Beeville Mayor Pro Temp

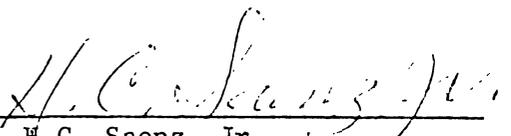

Jimmy Martinez,
Administrative Aide to Senator
Carlos Truan

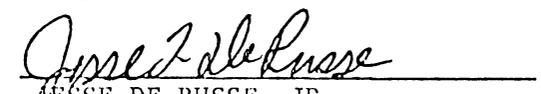

Jessy Garza,
Businessman, Former BCC Trustee


Joe Moron,
Businessman, Former Mayor Pro Temp


Charles Manning,
Concerned citizen


Judy Telge,
Concerned citizen


H.C. Saenz, Jr.
Businessman, Former Mayor,
City of Beeville


JESSE DE RUSSE, JR.
MAYOR, City of Beeville

cc: Senator Bentsen
Senator Tower
Congressman Patman
Representative Wieting
Senator Truan
Postmaster General
✓ Dr. Garcia
Mr. Bonilla