

United States District Court

Southern District of Texas

Woodruff Seals  
U. S. District Judge  
P. O. Box 61547  
Houston, Texas 77208

June 16, 1978

Dr. Hector Garcia  
1315 Bright Street  
Corpus Christit, Texas 78403

My dear friend Hector:

Firstly, let me tell you that your nephew, Tony, is making one of the best United States Attorneys we have ever had. He is improving the office in every respect. He is working hard and has the respect and good will of all the Judges.

Secondly, I have been following your activities from day to day in "The Corpus Christi Caller" and I can see that as you grow older you get more involved. I don't know of any person who is more concerned with the last, the lost and the least than you are.

Now to the real purpose of the letter: I have been hearing through friends that there is a group in Corpus who desire to put a statue of Jesus on public property and lease the land for a dollar a year. I don't know if this is true or not but if it is, I have some reservation about it and I know that you would not be offended if I expressed them to you. I would hate to see Jesus Christ, or at least his statue, become a political football and kicked all over Corpus Christi. Also, as a Methodist layman I am very interested in the separation of Church and State and I would hope that people like you would look at this proposal a long time. That is all I am going to say about this; just to let you know that I am concerned about it as a Methodist layman and as a person who is trying to build a better sense of community in our multiple, diversified and pluristic society.

Tell your lovely wife, Wanda, hello for me and I want you two to know that I miss seeing you personally as I did

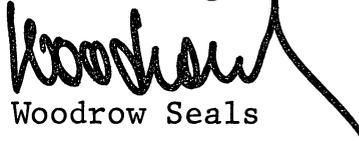
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when I was holding court in Corpus. I am doing everything I can for Jimmy and I hope that these new judgeships are created this year, but I have my doubts.

If I can do anything for you in Houston, please let me know.

Peace and grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Woodrow Seals". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Woodrow Seals

WS:fd