

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI
COUNTY OF NUECES, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 26th day of July A.D. 19 79
personally appeared Ricardo Gonzalez, address 1812 Coleman
age 31, phone number 881-8990

Thursday evening, July 19th, my girlfriend (Rachel Lucio) and I went to a dance. She is employed at First State Bank. After the dance, we went to a restaurant. After dinner, we were to meet at her house. I followed her in my car. She was driving her own. We were going South on the Freeway. We exited on Gollihar and made a left turn on Gollihar, heading towards Port-Ayers, I then noticed thru the rear view mirror, a police car with red lights on, (this was about 3:00 a.m. on July 20, 1979) My girlfriend drove inside the gas station lot (corner Crosstown Access and Gollihar) and parked. I stopped and got out of my car. Officer Matthews approached me and proceeded with procedures. He asked me for my (I.D., where I was going, coming from, have been drinking?, etc.) I asked Officer Matthews what was the purpose for being stopped. I was told that I had failed to make a right directional signal to exit on Gollihar. His tone of voice and verbal responses were insulting and abusive... (harsh, obscene in a provoking conduct.) He demanded for me to keep my mouth shut. He asked me again "Have you been drinking, Is this your correct address, Is this your car, etc. I told him that I did drink at a dance and that my permanent address is 1812 Coleman. He then asked me again if I was drunk. I told Officer Matthews that if he reasonably believed if I was drunk or disorderly that I would gladly go with him, leave my car there and go take a breathalyzer test. During the time I was talking to Officer Matthews, I saw Officer Hernandez searching my car. She was throwing my books and clothes being tossed around by her. She walked towards me and I asked her what was the purpose of the search and manner displayed. Her offensive conduct, abusiveness, indecent, profane and vulgar language, (such as what the fuck is it to you, Puto, she said it in Spanish), refrained me to stop and ask any further questions. She was clearly intimidating me and I had no alternative for this incident to be clarified. I was very upset because of their actions, displaying unprofessional attitude and unjustifiable abuse of authority. I was then demanded to get in my car and take off. I was verbally threatened by Officer Matthews and quote,... "Next time we see you in the fucking streets again, we are going to fucking nail you!" This vulgar language was unnecessary.

I got in my car and told my girlfriend to go home and I would see her later. I was going to Dunkin Donuts.

I drove to Save-A-Dollar gas station and bought gas and cigarettes. Then I went to Dunkin Donuts. While parking there, I saw a lady I've known for some time, (Maria Vergara), walking with her friend. I

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the _____ day of _____
A.D. 19 _____.

Notary Public, Nueces County, Texas

called them and asked them if they could look at my car, messed up inside, glove compartment damaged. I went inside with both of them to have coffee. Then I, coincidentally saw Officer Hernandez sitting down. I walked over to where she was sitting and asked her very politely if I could talk to her what the due cause for search and the damage to the glove compartment. She responded in Spanish (verbal profanities) saying she would throw my ass in jail if I didn't leave, displaying sadistic gestures. Officer Matthews was walking out (apparently returning from rest-room) I asked him if I could talk to him. I told him I did not want to interrupt his coffee break. I just wanted to show him the glove compartment and if he could please explain to me why I was mistreated. He was very calm and told me, "Gonzalez, I'll talk to you... outside!" We walked outside. We stood by the police car, suddenly, I was grabbed by Officer Hernandez, followed by Officer Matthews and shoved, pushed hard against the rear of the police car. My head and arms were grabbed, my face hit against the car causing my mouth and lip to bleed. My throat was being held by Officer Matthews. I was handcuffed and thrown inside the car, causing my head to hit on the edge of the door. They got in the car and drove off to the Police Station. Arriving at the Police Station, they got off the car and talked to several fellow officers. Approximately five minutes later, I was taken out. I was led toward the Chief Booking Officer downstairs. He signed arrest sheet. I was then taken upstairs by Hernandez and Matthews. While being taken upstairs, unnecessary force and mistreatment was used. I was kicked and was hit on my back very hard. There at the booking desk, procedures followed. Sgt. Bolt was the booking officer. I was hurting and in pain! Other persons who were present were, Mr. Sharpe (jailor) and another jailor. Officer Wramp and Valverde were also present.

I told Officer Bolt that I was hurting, my groin, ear and other bodily injuries caused by arresting officers. My legs were spread wide apart by Officer Matthews. My hands, wrist were in pain, my handcuffs were then taken off and hand placed on counter. I requested for medical attention, (Sgt. Bolt). I gave them my personal belongings. I was asked by Sgt. Bolt if I wanted to make a phone call. I told him I wanted to call Attorney Ruben Bonilla. They laughed when I mentioned his name. The arrest sheet was placed on the counter and I was told to sign. I could not sign with my right hand. The arrest sheet was taken away by Officer Hernandez and she signed something on it. She stated "You've done fucked up!" I was denied a phone call. I was then taken to the other side of counter to be fingerprinted by Sgt. Bolt. I was taken to jail area by Mr. Sharpe. I was placed on Cell B-5 with another prisoner.

I have sufficient evidence and witnesses that can be summon to testify under oath that my conduct was not wrong under the circumstances. I was aware of the nature of my conduct and circumstances surrounding my conduct. I did not resist arrest from the very beginning. The reckless conduct of the officers (Hernandez and Matthews) was unnecessary and unprofessional.

I understand that there are some situations in which the use of physical force is justified. In my case, obviously, it was uncalled for. I respect the law and it was a rewarding experience of the innerworkings when I worked there, (as jailor). I was very observant and conscientious of my job. I have even being asked by some officers to join the academy.

I understand that the workload within the department increases, while the work force doesn't. There may not be enough investigations to investigate or interview the complaints in order to get full facts to incidents such as this, especially with minority Mexican-Americans, Black-Americans, and Anglo-Americans.

To save you some of your time and mine, this is my honest statement.

Furthermore, I do believe that disciplinary action should be taken on Officer Hernandez and Matthews. They discredit the department, other fellow officers, who do try their best, conscientiously, to serve and protect all kinds of people in all segments of society.

I have only your concern and consideration on this matter. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Ricardo Gonzalez
Ricardo Gonzalez

Note: I am not guilty of the drunk, disorderly conduct, and the ticket charge. This charges were made after I was in jail and bodily assaulted by Officer Hernandez and Matthews, in order to justify their arrest. Then again, I am aware and factually observed some of this tactics used by unconscionable officers!

I believe this incident merits a thorough investigation and both officers Hernandez and Matthews should be reprimanded or suspended and to re-read and summarize the Texas Penal Code Book for Law Enforcement Officers. This action to them can only be done by Chief of Police, Mr. Bill Banner.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME ON THIS THE 26 DAY OF

July A.D. 1979.

C.C. Beville Law Firm
Ruben, Tony Williams
Mayer, Luther Jones
Mayor, Dean T. D. Sample
M. K. Westergren
Betty Turner, City Council
G. H. K. Sley
Solomon Ortiz
Charles Thomas
Dr. Hector Garcia, American C.I. Forum

R. C. [Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC, NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS

Julia Council #1
Mr. Paul Vasquez Jr.
John Tower, U.S. Senate

P.S. I am presently unemployed. I cannot find an
attorney to defend me on the (Bodily injury, official
oppression, inconsistent statements to arrest, verbal
provocations & property damage caused by Officer
Hernandez & Mr. Wkews.

Please, I need your assistance & consideration.

My trial date @ Municipal Court is Monday
August 13, 1999.

Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,
Samuel
Gonzalez