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Department of Justice

Washington

MAR 8 1966

Dr. Hector P. Garcia 3024 Morgan Avenue Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for your letter dated January 18, 1966, addressed to the Attorney General regarding problems of Americans of Mexican descent in the United States and the appointment of Judge Virgilio Roel for a position with this Division. I apologize for the delay in responding.

Regarding the application of Judge Virgilio Roel, we have closely reviewed the vacancies existing in the Civil Rights Division and concluded that there is no opening at the grade level at which Judge Roel is presently employed and for which his years of legal experience would qualify him. We so advised Judge Roel by letter dated January 13, 1966.

The openings in the Civil Rights Division are primarily for young attorneys who are just out of law school and who start at beginner salaries. The supervisory positions in the Civil Rights Division are presently filled. We will keep Judge Roel's application in our file.

With respect to your comments concerning the proper enforcement of the federal laws with respect to the civil rights of Americans of Mexican origin in the United States, I believe the Attorney General has written you recently stressing our continuing efforts to meet our responsibilities in this area. I repeat what the Attorney General has said, that we are desirous of receiving any information bearing upon the deprivation of federal rights and will act promptly to investigate any such reports, and if a violation of federal law is shown, to take appropriate action. - 2 -

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Thank you very much for your letter and your recommendation.

Sincerely,

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JOHN DOAR Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division