GET Committee

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Gerald Poblete <Gerald.Poblete@traviscountytx.gov> Monday, March 11, 2019 1:57 PM GET Committee For Michael Molina re: Don Guzman Don Guzman.pdf

Mr. Molina,

Please see attached.

Sincerely,

Gerald Poblete

Juvenile Case Manager Judge Randall Slagle Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 | Travis County 10409 Burnet Road, Suite 180 | Austin, TX 78758 512-854-6685 direct | 512-809-1796 cell | 512-854-4535 fax gerald.poblete@traviscountytx.gov | https://www.traviscountytx.gov/justices-of-peace/jp2

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JUDGE RANDALL SLAGLE

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT TWO TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS 10409 Burnet Road, Suite 180, Austin, Texas 78758 Phone # 512-854-4545; Fax # 512-854-4535

March 11, 2019

Dear Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee,

I am writing you on behalf of Mr. Donald Guzman. For over 15 years, I worked for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office of Maui as a Victim/Witness Counselor. During this time, I had the privilege of working with Mr. Guzman on several domestic violence cases. In seeking justice, the safety of the victims was our first priority.

I remember one particular case where I realized that Donald Guzman was not just going through the motions of a prosecutor. It was clear he cared about the well-being of the victims. The case was initially reported by the victim's manager. Her manager noticed behavior at work that caused her to believe that one of her staff was being abused at home.

During the next couple of months, I noticed that Mr. Guzman was not only going after a conviction, but really wanted to help the victim in this case have a better life where she and her child could thrive. We met a few times with the manager and several times with the victim. During these meetings Donald treated them with kindness, patience, and respect.

Subsequently, our office developed a strong relationship with the manager, and with her help the victim was granted a lateral transfer to a sister work site on another island. Furthermore, a safe residence was also established. Before the violence could escalate, emergency funds were then allocated toward airfare so that mother and child could relocate.

Mr. Guzman passionately pursued justice in this case and achieved it. However, what I remember most about this case is the collaboration of the government and the private sector of Maui in helping one of their own survive with dignity.

erely.

Gerald M. Poblete Juvenile Case Manager