

## BEFORE THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

### CJC No. 25-1038

#### **INQUIRY CONCERNING**

HONORABLE LINDA WALLACE RAINS COUNTY JUDGE EMORY, RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS

#### ORDER OF SUSPENSION

Be it known that on July 8, 2025, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct was presented with a copy of an Indictment handed up on June 20, 2025, by the duly constituted Grand Jury of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, in Cause No. 6749, styled *State of Texas vs. Linda Wallace* (the "Indictment," a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit** "A" and incorporated herein for all relevant purposes).

Having considered the indictment, the Commission concluded that Judge Wallace is charged with one count of Tampering with a Witness, a Third-Degree Felony. The Commission determined that LINDA WALLACE should be SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY from the judicial office as the current and/or holdover County Judge for Rains County, Texas, pursuant to the authority contained in Article V, Sec. 1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution and Rule 15(a) of the Texas Procedural Rules for the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, and such suspension remain in effect until the charges set forth in the Indictment are dismissed, Judge Wallace is acquitted of all charges in the Indictment, the County Commissioners Court appoints a successor that is duly qualified to the office of county judge, or upon further order(s) of the Commission.

Accordingly, effective immediately, it is hereby **ORDERED** that **LINDA WALLACE be SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY**, from office as the current and/or holdover County Judge of Rains County, Texas. It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that this suspension shall remain in effect until the charges set forth in the indictment are dismissed, Judge Wallace is acquitted of all charges in the indictment, the County Commissioners Court appoints a successor that is duly qualified to the office of county judge, or upon further order(s) of the Commission. It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the Commission retains the authority to reconsider this Order should additional information not yet received warrant such action.

**ISSUED** on the <u>Sth</u> day of July 2025, at  $\underline{II}: \underline{40a}$ .m.

Honorable Gary Steel, Chair State Commission on Judicial Conduct

Prosecutor Case Number: TRN:

Cause No. 6749

Court: 8th Judicial District Court The State of Texas Vs. Linda Wallace

Charge: Tampering with a Witness, 36.05 Penal Code. Third Degree Felony

FILED FOR RECORD A1715 O'clock

JUN 3 0 2025 LAURA PATE, DISTRICT CLERK RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, DEFUTY

#### Count 1

# IN THE NAME AND BY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

THE GRAND JURY, for the County of Rains, State of Texas, duly selected impaneled, sworn, charged, and organized as such at the January Term A.D. 2025 of the 8th Judicial District Court for said County, upon their oaths present in and to said court at said term that Linda Wallace, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about May 28, 2025, and before the presentment of this indictment, in the County and State aforesaid, did coerce Jennifer Patterson, who was a prospective witness in an official proceeding, the criminal matter titled State of Texas v. Robert Jenkins Franklin, by pressuring her as supervisor of her employment with intent to influence Jennifer Patterson to withhold testimony in the official proceeding;

AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.

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Foreperson of the Grand Jury

Exhibit A