



**BEFORE THE
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

CJC No. 27-0109

INQUIRY CONCERNING

**HONORABLE ROBERT JENKINS FRANKLIN
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
EMORY, RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS**

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

Be it known that on September 29, 2026, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct was presented with a copy of an Indictment handed up on September 21, 2026, by the duly constituted Grand Jury of the 8th Judicial District Court, in Cause No. 6853, styled *State of Texas vs. Robert Jenkins Franklin* (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 Franklin is charged with Aggravated Perjury, a Third Degree Felony. The Commission determined that **ROBERT JENKINS FRANKLIN**, should be **SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY** from the judicial office of Justice of the Peace for Rains County, Texas, pursuant to the authority contained in Article V, Sec. 1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution and Rule 10 of the Disciplinary Rules for Judges and Judicial Candidates, and such suspension remain in effect until the charges set forth in the Indictment are dismissed, Judge Franklin is acquitted of all charges in the Indictment, or upon further order(s) of the Commission.

Accordingly, effective immediately, it is hereby **ORDERED** that **ROBERT JENKINS FRANKLIN** be **SUSPENDED WITHOUT PAY**, from the office of Justice of the Peace for 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 Franklin is acquitted of all charges in the indictment, 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 ____30th__ day of September 2026, at _5_: _30 p.m.

Ken Wise

Honorable Ken Wise, Interim Chair
State Commission on Judicial Conduct

No. 6853

Bond \$ _____

THE STATE OF TEXAS VS. ROBERT JENKINS FRANKLIN

CHARGE: AGGRAVATED PERJURY

T.P.C. § 37.03

--Third Degree Felony

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

THE GRAND JURORS, for the County of **RAINS**, State of Texas, duly selected, empaneled, sworn, charged, and organized as such at the **JULY** term, 2026 of the 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT for said County, upon their oaths present in and to said court at said term that **ROBERT JENKINS FRANKLIN**, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about the **13th day of January, 2026**, and before the presentment of this indictment, in the County and State aforesaid, did then and there, with intent to deceive and with knowledge of the meaning of the statement, knowingly make a false statement under oath, said statement being required or authorized by law to be made under oath, during or in connection with an official proceeding, namely in a trial court hearing in Cause No. 9633 in the 354th District Court, styled **IN THE INTEREST OF R.M.J.F. AND E.R.F., CHILDREN**, concerning a reduction of defendant's child support, as follows:

the Defendant was asked:

"Now, have you participated in the purchase or sale of any property in the last 18 months for the Franklin Family Trust at all in any capacity?"

to which the Defendant answered:

"I don't know what you mean by 'participated.'"

The questioner then clarified the question by asking the Defendant:

"Well, have you served as an agent? Have you served as a seller? Have you served as someone who was a signature on a piece of written paper for the sale of a piece of property?"

to which the Defendant answered:

"No, sir."

FILED FOR RECORD
At 140 O'clock P.M.

SEP 21 2026

LAURA PATE, DISTRICT CLERK
RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: LP DEPUTY

Exhibit A

and, after the questioner responded, “Okay,” the Defendant further stated:

“Not that I can recall,”

thereby representing, in substance, that the Defendant had not participated in any way, or did not recall having participated, in the purchase or sale of property for the Franklin Family Trust during the preceding 18 months, including, in the manners described to him;

whereas, said statement being false when in truth and in fact, the Defendant had participated in the purchase and sale of property for the Franklin Family Trust during the preceding eighteen months, and the Defendant knew and recalled that he had so participated, including, among other things, by doing one or more of the following:

during a period of time beginning on or about June 20, 2025, and continuing through on or about January 12, 2026, and pursuant to a continuing course of conduct, act or purport to act as an agent, representative, or contact person for the acting Trustee or Franklin Family Trust, involving:

- a. the sale of a house and acreage in Rains County, Texas,
- b. the purchase of a house in Hunt County, Texas,
- c. the purchase of a house in Galveston County, Texas,
- d. the purchase of a car wash in Lone Oak, Texas, and
- e. the final disbursement of funds remaining after the sale and purchase of the properties,
- f. was included in approximately 90 emails (sending or receiving) concerning the sale and purchase of the properties,

on or about June 20, 2025, personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions, the substance of the communication being he wants to:

- a. buy a primary residence,
- b. with the sale of ranch, and
- c. consult with his certified public accountant before determining whether or how to proceed;

on or about June 30, 2025—once again—personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the contemplated transactions, the substance of the communication being:

he needed to consult with his certified public accountant before determining whether or how to proceed;

on or about September 9, 2025—once again—personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions, the substance of the communication being: something may come together soon.

on or about September 16, 2025, again personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions and, the substance of the statement being:

“I believe I have forwarded everything you need for now to get started on our exchange. I’ve identified three properties and will get those to you this week;

on or about October 7, 2025, again personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions and, the substance of the statement being:

“Here is the Trust Certificate for the Franklin Family Trust.
Let Jen know if you need anything else at this point.”

on or about October 7, 2025, again personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions and, the substance of the statement being:

- a. Having been informed he could not sign on behalf of the trust because he wasn’t the trustee,
- b. he indicated he would still be the “direct contact”,
- c. she (mom is 82) is aware and on board with everything we’re doing,

on or about October 10, 2025, after having been informed he could not sign on the documents related to the transactions,
he electronically signed his name to an amendment
regarding the sale of a house owned by the trust,

on or about November 5, 2025, again personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions and after having previously been informed he could not sign on the documents related to the transactions, and the substance of the statement being:

We originally thought either of us could sign,
Can she sign the same contract I signed,
If so, I’ll get the original . . . and have her sign it,

on or about December 15, 2025, personally communicating with a person who handles real estate transactions concerning the transactions and, the substance of the statement being:

After receiving an email regarding authorization needed to complete the transaction, he responded,
“Good on our end.”

on or about January 9, 2026, **four days before his testimony**, personally

communicating instructions concerning where to send the remaining transaction proceeds and directing the disposition of remaining proceeds, in the amount of approximately \$1,300,000;

and on or about January 12, 2026, **one day before giving the sworn testimony**, alleged herein, he was emailed a closing or settlement statement concerning the transactions;

and said false statement was material to the official proceeding because the proceeding concerned the Defendant's request to reduce his child-support obligation, and the Defendant's actual financial circumstances, resources, benefits, and participation in these property transactions could have affected the Court's determination whether his support obligation should be reduced.

AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.


FOREMAN OF THE GRAND JURY