



**BEFORE THE  
STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

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**CJC No. 25-0929**

**INQUIRY CONCERNING**

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

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**ORDER OF SUSPENSION**


Be it known that on June 4, 2025, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct was presented with a copy of an Indictment handed up on May 27, 2025, by the duly constituted Grand Jury of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, in Cause No. 6729, 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 two counts of Tampering with a Witness, a Third-Degree Felony and two counts of Official Oppression, a Class A Misdemeanor. 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 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 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025, at 9:00 A.m.

  
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Honorable Gary Steel, Chair  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct

Prosecutor Case Number:  
TRN:

Cause No. 6729

Court: 8th Judicial District Court

The State of Texas Vs. Robert Jenkins Franklin

Charge: Count 1: Official Oppression, 39.03 Penal Code. Class A Misdemeanor  
Count 2: Tampering with a Witness, 36.05 Penal Code. Third Degree Felony  
Count 3: Official Oppression, 39.03 Penal Code. Class A Misdemeanor  
Count 4: Tampering with a Witness, 36.05 Penal Code. Third Degree Felony

**\*Additional Counts Following\***

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**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 Robert Jenkins Franklin, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about February 18, 2025, and before the presentment of this indictment, in the County and State aforesaid, did intentionally subject Jennifer Patterson to mistreatment that the defendant knew was unlawful, namely coercing and pressuring her to sign a false affidavit, and the defendant was acting under color of his office as Rains County Justice of the Peace;

**AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.**

**Count 2**

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

FILED FOR RECORD  
At 1105 O'clock A.M.  
**MAY 27 2025**  
LAURA PATE, DISTRICT CLERK  
RAINS COUNTY, TEXAS  
BY: LP DEPUTY

Prosecutor Case Number:  
TRN:

that Robert Jenkins Franklin, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about February 18, 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, namely an affidavit for a civil lawsuit, by pressuring her as supervisor of her employment with intent to influence Jennifer Patterson to testify falsely in the official proceeding;

**AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.**

**Count 3**

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 Robert Jenkins Franklin, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about October 16, 2023, and before the presentment of this indictment, in the County and State aforesaid, did intentionally subject Coby Wiebe to mistreatment that the defendant knew was unlawful, namely coercing and threatening him to accept a plea agreement in a criminal case, and the defendant was acting under color of his office as Rains County Justice of the Peace;

**AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.**

**Count 4**

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 Robert Jenkins Franklin, hereinafter styled Defendant, on or about October 16, 2023, and before the presentment of this indictment, in the County and State aforesaid, did coerce Coby

Prosecutor Case Number:  
TRN:

Wiebe, who was a prospective witness in an official proceeding, namely a criminal case, by pressuring him and threatening him with intent to influence Coby Wiebe to testify falsely in the official proceeding;

**AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.**

  
Foreperson of the Grand Jury