

Incident Report 24-0002241-1

Primary Officer: Branch, Whitney (7755) Assisting Officer: Baer, Michael (7984)

Assigned District: Patrol Division C District, Beat, Zone: 1,16

Overview

Incident Overview

Is this a criminal offense?: Yes Incident Time Type: Specific Incident From Date: 02/21/2024
Incident From Time: 12:00 Date Reported: 02/22/2024 Location: 1010 E 8th St, Odessa, TX, 79761, USA
Location Note: Ector County Courthouse Annex Location Category: Government/Public Building
does incident differ from report date?: Yes Investigation Details: Follow-Up Property, Suspect Identified

Offenses

180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS Author: Baer, Michael

Offense: 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS NIBRS UCR Code: All Other Offenses

Severity: Misdemeanor Completion: Completed

[Additional Details](#)

Offender is Suspected of Using?: No Was Bias Motivation Involved?: No

Names

Other - Pierce, Charles Lee Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

[Involvement](#)

Role: Other Other Person Role: Reporting Party

Offense: 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS

[Identity](#)

Type: Known Last Name: Pierce First Name: Charles Middle Name: Lee DOB: [REDACTED]

[Identifying Documents](#)

ID Type: Driver's License Issuing State: [REDACTED] ID Number: [REDACTED] Expiration Date: [REDACTED]
Class: [REDACTED]

[Description](#)

Age: 64 Sex: Male Race: White Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino Height: 5' 11" Weight: 210 Eye Color: Blue
Hair Color: Bald Hair Length: Other Hair Style: Straight Facial Hair: Clean Shaven Hair Type: Bald Build: Medium
Complexion: Light Resident Status: Resident

[Contact](#)

Address Type: Home Location: 1613 Petroleum Dr, Odessa, Ector County, TX, 79762, USA

Phone Number Type: Home Phone Number: (432) 413-0658

Names (continued)

Other - Pierce, Charles Lee (continued) Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

Relationships

Name: Wilhite, Carmen Estella **Is:** Acquaintance

Name: Hall, Linda **Is:** Acquaintance

Offender/Suspect - Wilhite, Carmen Estella Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

Involvement

Role: Offender/Suspect **Offense:** 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS

Identity

Type: Known **Last Name:** Wilhite **First Name:** Carmen **Middle Name:** Estella **DOB:** [REDACTED]

Identifying Documents

ID Type: Driver's License **Issuing State:** [REDACTED] **ID Number:** [REDACTED]

Description

Age: 62 **Sex:** Female **Race:** White **Ethnicity:** Hispanic or Latino **Eye Color:** Brown **Hair Color:** Brown
Facial Hair: None **Complexion:** Fair **Resident Status:** Resident

Contact

Address Type: Home **Location:** 3002 Beechwood St, Odessa, TX, 79761, USA

Phone Number Type: Home **Phone Number:** (432) 438-7640

Phone Number Type: Work **Phone Number:** (432) 563-3700

Phone Number Type: Mobile **Phone Number:** (432) 362-6792

E-Mail: dmin@basinbaptist.org

Relationships

Name: Pierce, Charles Lee **Is:** Acquaintance

Name: Hall, Linda **Is:** Acquaintance

Witness - Hall, Linda Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

Involvement

Role: Witness **Offense:** 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS

Identity

Type: Known **Last Name:** Hall **First Name:** Linda

Contact

Phone Number Type: Home **Phone Number:** (432) 889-1234

Relationships

Name: Pierce, Charles Lee **Is:** Acquaintance

Name: Wilhite, Carmen Estella **Is:** Acquaintance

Author: Branch, Whitney

Names (continued)

Victim - State of Texas Author: Branch, Whitney

Involvement

Role: Victim

Victim Details

Victim Type: Society / Public

Contact

Name: State of Texas

Vehicles

Information/Documentation Only - 2015 RAM 1500 - [REDACTED]

Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

Vehicle Information

Role: Information/Documentation Only **Offense:** 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS

Vehicle Details

Vehicle Type: Trucks **Year:** 2015 **Make:** RAM **Model:** 1500 **Style:** 4 Door Sedan; Truck / Pick-up 4 Door **Color:** Blue

License Number: [REDACTED]

Property

Involved - MERCHANDISE Author: Branch, Whitney • Edited by Baer, Michael

Involvement

Role: Involved **Offense:** 180.001(a) - COERCION OF POLICE/FIRE/POLITICAL CAMPAIGN - MIS

Description

Type: Merchandise

Description

Trump merchandise

Related People

Relationship: Suspected of Being Involved With This Property **Person:** Wilhite, Carmen Estella

Collected By

Location of Collection: 1010 E 8th St, Odessa, TX, 79761, USA

Narrative by Branch, Whitney

First Submitted: 02/22/2024 23:08

On Thursday 02/22/2024 at approximately 1734 hours, I, Cpl. Branch was dispatched to the Ector County Courthouse Annex located at 1010 E. 8th St. regarding a bribery call of service.

Narrative by Branch, Whitney (continued)

First Submitted: 02/22/2024 23:08

Upon my arrival I observed a white male waving me down occupying a blue 2015 Ram 1500 pickup truck. The male was identified as Pierce, Charles Lee and he reported that on 02/21/2024 at approximately noon Wilhite, Carmen w/h/f bribed a potential voter.

Charles stated he overheard Carmen conversing with a male about how much he loved former President Trump and inquired about the merchandise she possessed. Charles further stated he overheard Carmen tell the man that she possessed more Trump merchandise across the street at the Republican Headquarters and if he would vote for all the Republican candidates, she would buy him more Trump "swag" and the man responded "cool".

Charles stated that this bothered him for several hours until he felt compelled to contact the elections office that day. Charles stated he also contacted the Mayor regarding Carmen's bribery and to ask him to tell her to stop.

Charles further stated he decided to report yesterday's incident today. Charles stated that Hall, Linda (432-889-1234) was also a witness to yesterday's incident.

Charles stated he would like to pursue this case and completed a field witness statement. Wilhite, Carmen has been accused of the offense of bribery (Texas Penal Code 36.02) a Felony of the second degree. Carmen intentionally and knowingly offered merchandise another's vote. Wilhite is running for the Ector County Precinct 203 chair.

Earlier today Wilhite was involved in a disturbance at the above listed location with Kelm, Donna who is also running for the Ector County Chair.

The statement was collected and tagged into records. Charles was provided a case number regarding the incident.

No other.

Narrative by Baer, Michael

On 2/23/2024 I was assigned and reviewed this case. Upon initial inspection of the evidence present, I changed the offense from Bribery to Texas Penal Code **Sec. 36.03. COERCION OF PUBLIC SERVANT OR VOTER (MA)**.

I contacted the suspect, Carmen Wilhite on 2/23/2024 by phone.

I introduced myself to Carmen and asked her she was aware of the allegations against her. Carmen initially stated she was not aware of these allegations, but then stated that someone had called her and told her that statements had been made against her on "Facebook" about bribery.

I informed Carmen that a witness had told OPD that she had offered a potential voter "Trump merchandise" if they would vote republican. I asked Carmen if this was true. Carmen stated it was not true. Carmen stated that a "tall black guy" and her were talking, and the unidentified B/M had pointed out someone had a "MAGA" hat (this standing for Make America Great Again, a common slogan for the Trump presidential campaign). Carmen stated that she told the B/M "I know where I can get you one, I can get you on at headquarters across the street". Carmen informed me they sell Trump merchandise at their political headquarters. Carmen informed me that she's [REDACTED], but she does sell the merchandise.

Narrative by Baer, Michael (continued)

I asked Carmen if at any point she told any potential voter that she'd give them any item to persuade their vote. Carmen denied these allegations. Carmen said that she will tell potential voters that "she's running for Precinct 203 and she is the only candidate backed by the Republican party."

Carmen was unable to identify the B/M she told me she had been speaking with and stated the conversation was very brief.

Carmen went on to tell me that there have been multiple false allegations and assault claims against her due to these elections. She was referred to Sgt. Javier Gonzales about the other allegations.

The entirety of our phone call conversation was recorded and tagged onto Evidence.com.

Probable Cause

Probable Cause

Odessa Police Dept. - TX
Incident 24-0002241 - Evidence List

| Name | Description | Type |
|------|-------------|------|
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