

**Letter regarding TDHCA monitoring  
Of Hidalgo County**

**Zimbra****jaime.longoria@co.hidalgo.tx.us****FW: TDHCA Issue**

**From :** Stella Rodriguez <stella@taca.org>      Wed, Dec 28, 2016 09:40 PM  
**Subject :** FW: TDHCA Issue  
**To :** Jaime Longoria  
<Jaime.Longoria@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Hi Jaime,

I don't know if you received the anonymous email below in which your agency is mentioned. I forwarded the email to Tim Irvine, Michael De Young and Patricia Murphy.

Regards,

Stella Rodriguez  
TACAA  
(512) 462-2555, ext. 204

TACAA provides a unified voice to Community Action Agencies and operates programs to increase the capacity of organizations to serve low income Texans.

From: Stella Rodriguez  
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 9:32 PM  
To: Tim Irvine; Michael DeYoung; Patricia Murphy  
Subject: FW: TDHCA Issue

Tim, Michael and Patricia:

I am forwarding you an email in which you are mentioned. The sender claims to be an employee of TDHCA; apparently it was sent to the CA network. I did not receive the email directly by this person, rather it was forwarded to me by several members in the network. I don't know if you were copied but having this information before me obligates me to share it with you.

Forwarding you this email is the extent of my involvement in this matter.

Respectfully,

Stella Rodriguez  
Executive Director  
Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. (TACAA)  
4029 S. Capital of Texas Hwy., Ste. 115  
Austin, TX 78704-7920  
(512) 462-2555, ext. 204  
Website: [www.tacaa.org](http://www.tacaa.org)<<http://www.tacaa.org/>>

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Begin forwarded message:

From: john Smith  
<tdhca458@outlook.com<mailto:tdhca458@outlook.com>>  
Date: December 28, 2016 at 7:54:07 PM CST  
Subject: TDHCA Issue

Good Evening,

I ask that you perform an open records request to TDHCA to get a copy of the Hidalgo 2015 CEAP monitoring checklist and CEAP monitoring report to see the truthfulness of this email.

I am writing to clear my conscious about being an employee here at TDHCA. I have worked at TDHCA for years and cannot tell you my name for fear of being retaliated against. Many of us hate working here for the way Directors act towards and how they treat the community action network. There is an issue that has occurred that can destroy the integrity of employees who have nothing to do with what TDHCA executive management does and have done. We employees do not want to be cast in the shadow of what executive management have done.

We (TDHCA) are being audited and it was uncovered that Michael DeYoung, Patricia Murphy and Tim Irvine covered up a serious issue

at Hidalgo County. After talking to different TDHCA employees, and reading documents, it shows that Michael changed Administrative rules when he did not have the authority to do it. Michael told Hidalgo County to provide less benefits to clients and Hidalgo County did in fact, provide thousands of clients with less benefits in 2015. I was told by a TDHCA monitor that Michael told Hidalgo County to only give low income clients, half the assistance that they should have received. The monitor also told me that Hidalgo County client files were reviewed and a monitoring checklist shows that clients were not given the utility assistance they were suppose to receive. This was done in the Summer when our clients probably needed utility assistance the most.

I was shown a copy of the monitoring checklist that shows the files were reviewed. However, the monitoring report states that files were not reviewed. All reports are suppose to reflect what was found during a monitoring review. A manager here at TDHCA told me that Michael and Patricia worked together to hide this issue and that an employee was fired for trying to keep the issue in the report. The manager also told me that Tim Irvine knew this happened and that management is trying to keep this from being in our audit.

As you may know, TDHCA appears to go after agencies they do not like, but they also appear to cover things up for agencies they like or for what our Director does. They have closed down agencies like Cameron and Willacy in Brownsville, the community action in Pecos and have caused Agency directors to resign for doing things similar as what our Directors have done. Any other time an agency did not provide a client the assistance they were suppose to receive, they had a Finding in a report.

How can we at TDHCA be a trusted to protect our tax dollars when TDHCA management is dishonest and does coverups? How can Michael be allowed to favor agencies and get away with changing the rules? How can Patricia be allowed to continue being the Chief of Compliance if she can hide what another Director did and arbitrarily choose which Findings to hide from a report? How can

Tim be allowed to be the Director of our agency when he works to keep this information from the employees and agencies. How can our employees train and perform monitorings when the Directors do not do their job? Finally, how can we penalize agencies for not being in compliance with the rules, when Michael can change the rules when he likes and when he, Patricia and Tim can cover up anything they want? This has to stop, we need honest Directors that treat our agencies fairly.

Please get a copy of the 2015 Hidalgo County CEAP checklist and monitoring report and go to our next board meeting. At the meeting, ask our board of Directors why this is allowed to happen.

Thank you!

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