

## Santos Castilleja

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**From:** Robert Vina <[robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** Santos Castilleja  
**Cc:** [arcy.duran@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:arcy.duran@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us); Valde Guerra; Renan Ramirez Canto; Claudia Salinas; Eva Mireles; Paul Villarreal; Josephine Ramirez  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Legal Approval, Scofflaw Inter-local agreement with City of Donna / Request agenda item to update current release form

Good Afternoon Mr. Castilleja,  
We have reviewed the attached Inter-Local Agreement with City of Donna regarding Scofflaw procedures. It includes previously recommended modifications; therefore, this office approves it as to form. Please note, execution date on the first page should be included once executed. Please let me know if you have any questions.  
Thank you,

Robert Viña III

*Assistant District Attorney*  
Civil Litigation Division

**Office of the Criminal District Attorney**  
Hidalgo County, Texas  
100 E. Cano  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
 [\(956\) 292-7609](tel:(956)292-7609) EXT 8187  
 [\(956\) 292-7619](tel:(956)292-7619) FAX  
[robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us)

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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 9:05 AM, Santos Castilleja <[santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org](mailto:santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org)> wrote:

Hello Mr. Vina,

I want to thank you for helping us update our Scofflaw contract with the recommended modifications. We have added the City of Donna Information to the revised Scofflaw agreement and signatures have been obtained. The process to update the Denial/Release form with the recommended changes is in process.

Our office requests legal approval to proceed with the request to execute an inter-local agreement between the County of Hidalgo and the City of Donna for Scofflaw vehicle registration denial services.

Commissioner's Court Agenda Item,

Caption:

Discussion, consideration, and approval to execute an inter-local agreement between the County of Hidalgo and the City of Donna for implementation of scofflaw procedures and processes for vehicle registration denial services.

Purpose of the Agreement:

The purpose of this Agreement is to state the terms and conditions under which the County Tax Assessor-Collector may refuse to register certain motor vehicles. The County Tax Assessor-Collector will receive information from the City that the owner of the vehicle has an outstanding warrant for failure to appear or failure to pay a fine on a complaint that involves a violation of a traffic law as defined by Texas Transportation Code Section 702.001(3).

If legal approval is received, we will place this item on commissioners' court for consideration and approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Santos Castilleja III

Motor Vehicle Manager

Hidalgo County Tax Office

Department of Auto License & Registration

PO Box 2099, 2804 S. Bus. Hwy. 281

Edinburg, TX 78540-2099

Tel: [\(956\) 289-7458](tel:9562897458)

Fax: [\(956\) 318-2191](tel:9563182191)

[santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org](mailto:santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org)

SC:GO:CS

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**From:** Robert Vina [mailto:[robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 4:32 PM

**To:** Santos Castilleja; Erin Thorn

**Cc:** Claudia Salinas; Victor Garza; Josephine Ramirez; Gabriel Ochoa; Eva Mireles

**Subject:** Re: Request for Legal Approval, Scofflaw Inter-local agreement with City of Donna / Request agenda item to update current release form

Mr. Castilleja,

Please find attached the Scofflaw Interlocal Agreement between the County and City of Donna with recommended modifications in PDF format. I also included this template in WORD format for use in future agreements. The most substantive modification is in section 2.2 (and other applicable sections with the same language). Sections 2.2.1-2.2.3 reflect the three basis from the Transportation Code in which an individual may clear their traffic matter in order to then obtain their vehicle registration:

- (1) entry of a judgment against the person and the person's payment to the court of the fine for the violation and of all court costs;
- (2) perfection of an appeal of the case for which the arrest warrant was issued; or
- (3) dismissal of the charge for which the arrest warrant was issued.

Section 2.2 appeared to require a payment receipt and an executed Scofflaw denial/release form for each of the three provisions. Section 2.2 was reworded to require a payment receipt only "if applicable" since a payment receipt may not be applicable to the second and third provisions.

As to the current or proposed Denial/Release forms, in addition to the payment provisions, it is recommended to add reference the second and third basis on the form in a check box format in case one of those provisions is the basis for the release. (The proposed Denial/Release form includes dismissal provisions).

Potential sample check-box language may include:

" \_\_\_\_ Case Dismissed (Administrative Fee) on \_\_\_\_\_."

" \_\_\_\_ Case Dismissed (No Fee) on \_\_\_\_\_."

" \_\_\_\_ Case Appealed on \_\_\_\_\_."

Please let me know if you would like for us to review anything further. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Robert Viña III

*Assistant District Attorney*  
Civil Litigation Division

**Office of the Criminal District Attorney**

Hidalgo County, Texas

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Edinburg, TX 78539

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On Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 4:25 PM, Santos Castilleja <[santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org](mailto:santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org)> wrote:

Yes sir,

I will get that information in the format requested to your right away. I did want to state that the application of the new form is not in place. Our office understood that this change would be presented by the Auditor's office to our County

Commissioners. A letter from the Auditors with the subject Implementation of Revised Scofflaw Release Forms and Procedures was sent but never developed into a formal request to the vendor for it to be changed. Mr. Villarreal would like to see what can be done to place an item on the agenda to update the current release form while applying the recommendations from the auditors as well as the suggestions from your office. I wanted to send you the copy of both the letter and the Audit that originally created the need for it to be updated. You may already have a copies of these documents.

Please Advise,

Santos Castilleja III

Motor Vehicle Manager

**From:** Robert Vina [mailto:[robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:robert.vina@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us)]

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:09 PM

**To:** Santos Castilleja

**Cc:** Valde Guerra; Josephine Ramirez; Victor Garza; Erin Thorn; Eva Mireles; Paul Villarreal; Gabriel Ochoa; Claudia Salinas

**Subject:** Re: Request for Legal Approval, Scofflaw Inter-local agreement with City of Donna

Good Afternoon Mr. Castilleja,

As requested, I reviewed the Scofflaw Interlocal Agreement with City of Donna. I have some minor suggested modifications. Could you please forward the Agreement in WORD format so I may incorporate the modifications which can be used in this and future agreements of this type.

Also, if it is available, could you please forward the WORD format of the Scofflaw Release Form currently being utilized by the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office as we have some suggested modifications for that one as well. I understand that the form is currently under review. These modifications will likely apply to that one as well.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Robert Viña III

Assistant District Attorney  
Civil Litigation Division

**Office of the Criminal District Attorney**

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On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 5:31 PM, Santos Castilleja <[santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org](mailto:santos.castilleja@hidalgocountytax.org)> wrote:

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Ricardo Rodriguez

Hidalgo County District Attorney

100 N. Closner Rm. 303

Edinburg, TX 78539

Attn: Robert Vina, Contracts and Civil Litigation Division

Subj: Request for Legal Approval, Scofflaw Inter-local agreement with City of Donna

Dear Robert Vina,

The City of Donna would like to join the County Scofflaw Program. They are very interested in combining the city's and county's efforts in the collection of delinquent fines and fees. We are requesting legal approval to proceed with the request to execute an inter-local agreement between the County of Hidalgo and the City of Donna for Scofflaw vehicle registration denial services.

Transportation code:

Sec. 702.003. REFUSAL TO REGISTER VEHICLE. (a) A county assessor-collector or the department may refuse to register a motor vehicle if the assessor-collector or the department receives under a contract information from a municipality that the owner of the vehicle has an outstanding warrant from that municipality for failure to appear or failure to pay a fine on a complaint that involves the violation of a traffic law.

Individuals with scofflaw warrants that failed to appear or failed to pay an outstanding fine or fee will be put into the County's internal database. The City of Donna has shown interest by passing a resolution allowing them to execute the agreement. Each traffic violation issued by the city will state that if the person fails to appear in court as provided by law for the violation, that person might not be permitted to register a motor vehicle in this county.

Commissioner's Court Agenda Item,

Caption:

Discussion, consideration, and approval to execute an inter-local agreement between the County of Hidalgo and the City of Donna for implementation of scofflaw procedures and processes for vehicle registration denial services.

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The purpose of this Agreement is to state the terms and conditions under which the County Tax Assessor-Collector may refuse to register certain motor vehicles. The County Tax Assessor-Collector will receive information from the City that the owner of the vehicle has an outstanding warrant for failure to appear or failure to pay a fine on a complaint that involves a violation of a traffic law as defined by Texas Transportation Code Section 702.001(3).

If legal approval is received, we will place this item on commissioners' court for consideration and approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Santos Castilleja III at [956-289-7458](tel:956-289-7458).

Sincerely,

Pablo (Paul) Villarreal Jr. PCC

Hidalgo County Tax Assessor Collector

PV:SC:EM:GO:CS

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