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REPORTER'S RECORD
VOLUME 1 OF VOLUMES
TRIAL COURT CAUSE NO. 2026-31195

JAZMIN ELAINE PEREZ) IN THE DISTRICT COURT
vs.) HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
CANDICE DENISE MATTHEWS)
AKA DR. CANDICE MATTHEWS) 280TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

REPORTER'S RECORD

On the 2nd day of June, 2026, the following proceedings came on to be held in the above-titled and numbered cause before the Honorable Damiane Dianne Curvey, Judge Presiding, held in Houston, Harris County, Texas.

Proceedings reported by computerized stenotype machine.

APPEARANCES

MS. JAZMIN ELAINE PEREZ

CONFIDENTIAL

PRO SE APPLICANT

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VOLUME 1

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1 **THE COURT:** Calling Cause No. 2026-31195;
2 Jazmin Elaine Perez --

3 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** I need to take this to
4 her.

5 **THE COURT:** Oh, yes, ma'am. Jazmin Elaine
6 Perez vs. Candice Denise Matthews. Okay. Attorneys,
7 please make your announcements.

8 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** Adjua Umoja-Justice
9 for the respondent, Candice --

10 **MS. LEWIS:** I'm sorry.

11 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** -- Matthews.

12 **MS. LEWIS:** And I'm UA Lewis for the
13 respondent.

14 **THE COURT:** Okay. Can you hear her?

15 **THE COURT REPORTER:** Yes.

16 **THE COURT:** Okay. All right. Any person
17 who may testify, please raise your right hand. Both of
18 you raise your right hand. Just raise your right hand.

19 (Oath administered.)

20 (All answered in the affirmative.)

21 **THE COURT:** Thank you. I appreciate it.
22 Okay. When I have a situation where I have an
23 unrepresented applicant but a represented respondent, I
24 generally set them for trial so that I can hear the
25 case. What do you do for a living?

1 **MS. PEREZ:** I'm not doing anything right
2 now.

3 **THE COURT:** What's your thing? What do
4 you do?

5 **MS. LEWIS:** Your Honor, I'm sorry. If we
6 may, we have a preliminary matter --

7 **THE COURT:** Yes.

8 **MS. LEWIS:** -- regarding the recusal.

9 **THE COURT:** I've already -- I've already
10 denied the recusal.

11 **MS. LEWIS:** Okay. So in that instance,
12 we're going to ask for a continuance.

13 **THE COURT:** Well, just let me -- let me do
14 this here.

15 **MS. LEWIS:** Sure.

16 **THE COURT:** I'm going to get you what you
17 need.

18 **MS. LEWIS:** Absolutely.

19 **THE COURT:** I'm going to get you what you
20 need.

21 Okay. So you are not a lawyer; am I right?

22 Okay. So you do not know the things that Attorney
23 Justice knows. And what I do when I have an
24 unrepresented applicant, I set you-all for trial.

25 It'll be two -- two and a half months out.

1 That gives you what you need and that gives you an
2 opportunity to either get an attorney or learn to be an
3 attorney, okay?

4 All exhibits that you-all will present, you
5 must exchange no later than 48 hours before trial,
6 okay?

7 Ms. Tiffany, do we have -- what trial dates
8 do we have?

9 **COURT CLERK:** I don't have them. Kenisha
10 has them.

11 **THE COURT:** Okay. Ms. Kenisha, has them.
12 Okay.

13 Get your phone out. Get your phone out.
14 Would you go get her for me, please? Thank you.

15 **MS. LEWIS:** Is there an order for the
16 recusal? Denial of the recusal?

17 **THE COURT:** Uh-huh. Would you like a
18 copy?

19 **MS. LEWIS:** If you don't mind.

20 **THE COURT:** Okay. Ms. Tiffany. Thank
21 you.

22 **MS. LEWIS:** I didn't know it was heard. I
23 didn't -- I wasn't here for an argument.

24 **THE COURT:** Well, it's not a hearing.
25 It's not a hearing. It's a up or down for the

1 attorney -- I mean, I'm sorry for the Judge.

2 **MS. LEWIS:** That's not been my experience,
3 but I understand, Your Honor.

4 **THE COURT:** Okay. All right.

5 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** So just for
6 housekeeping matters, Your Honor, you're saying that
7 recusals are not required? Because I've only done three
8 in 30 years and I've always had a hearing first.

9 **MS. LEWIS:** Absolutely.

10 **THE COURT:** Well, no. The recusal comes
11 in and it asks me whether or not I'd like to voluntarily
12 recuse or whether or not I'd like to stay on the case.
13 I sign saying I need to stay on the case. Then it goes
14 to Susan Brown. Susan Brown has 72 hours to decide upon
15 it.

16 This is the other reason that I'm giving you
17 all this time so that way you'll have time for Susan
18 Brown to hear your recusal.

19 **MS. LEWIS:** And so continuing on with the
20 hearing right now I think is the issue.

21 **THE COURT:** But I'm not continuing on with
22 it.

23 **MS. LEWIS:** But you're setting trial
24 dates.

25 **THE COURT:** I'm setting -- what I'm doing

1 is giving you what you asked for.

2 **MS. LEWIS:** Yes, ma'am -- yes, Your Honor.
3 I'm sorry.

4 **THE COURT:** It's okay. I answer to any of
5 that. What I'm doing is giving you what you asked for.
6 You wanted a continuance. Under the code, I'm not
7 allowed to give the respondent a continuance. Only the
8 applicant can receive a continuance in a protective
9 order. That's in the code.

10 And so the way that I handle it is I set
11 you-all for trial and that gives you the time that you
12 need. It gives Susan Brown the time that she needs
13 because it's nothing for me to take a trial out. If
14 Susan Brown says that I need to recuse or that she's
15 going to recuse me from the case, we just take -- we
16 just take the trial off the docket. But for today, I'm
17 still on this case, okay?

18 So I'm going to go ahead and I'm going to set
19 you-all a trial date and then within 72 hours Susan
20 Brown will make a decision. Okay. All right. I have
21 July 6th at 1:30 and August 17th at 1:30. Do either of
22 those dates work for you-all? Here you go.

23 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** Okay. Neither --
24 neither one is problematic other than waiting on what
25 Susan Brown has to say.

1 **THE COURT:** Well, that's going to happen
2 in three days. Yeah, that's going to happen in three
3 days.

4 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** Okay.

5 **COURT COORDINATOR:** Once you reach out, I
6 e-mail the attorneys and let them know that she filed it
7 in the case of her decision.

8 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** Okay.

9 **THE COURT:** Okay. So which date would you
10 like and which date would you like?

11 **MS. PEREZ:** August 17th is fine -- or no,
12 July.

13 **THE COURT:** July?

14 **MS. PEREZ:** Yes.

15 **THE COURT:** What is that date?

16 **MS. PEREZ:** July 6th.

17 **THE COURT:** July 6th, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.
18 Okay. Would you both please raise your right hand. You
19 are both being sworn to return to this court on
20 July 6th, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

21 You will receive no additional notice about
22 this date; however, your presence is required. Failure
23 to appear for you means I dismiss the whole case, okay?

24 Failure to appear for you means I may issue a
25 default judgment against you, okay? So make sure that

1 you-all are here.

2 Would you give both of them the pink sheet,
3 please?

4 You-all may put your hands down. Thank you.
5 Hold on one second. I want to see something. That
6 sheet is about what I just told you guys. All exhibits
7 must be exchanged no later than 48 hours before trial.
8 Attorney Justice, do you have Ms. Perez' information?

9 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** No, Your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** Okay.

11 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** The protective order
12 didn't have it.

13 **THE COURT:** Okay. Would you please give
14 your e-mail address?

15 **MS. PEREZ:** I've already sent her an
16 e-mail.

17 **THE COURT:** Okay. So you have an e-mail
18 from her?

19 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** I need to get it
20 verified because I didn't --

21 **THE COURT:** Did you receive an e-mail?

22 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** I can't -- I got an
23 e-mail but I can't confirm that it was from her or not
24 so just to make certain so that I can --

25 **THE COURT:** Okay. Oh, no worries. If you

1 would just put your e-mail right here.

2 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** -- send her anything I
3 file.

4 **THE COURT:** All right. All right. And
5 there's a TXO in place. Here's what we're going to do
6 with that: I'm going extend the TXO.

7 **MS. LEWIS:** No, Your Honor. Can we --

8 **THE COURT:** Ma'am, it's not -- it's not
9 proper to interrupt when the Judge is talking.

10 **MS. LEWIS:** I apologize. Yes, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** Thank you. All right. And
12 you can give her that.

13 **MS. LEWIS:** I think with the recusal being
14 pending right now, any orders right now, would not be
15 appropriate until Judge Brown -- I understand that.

16 **THE COURT:** I'm going extend the TXO for
17 now.

18 **MS. LEWIS:** Okay.

19 **THE COURT:** And if it is -- if Susan Brown
20 says I can't -- I can't work this case, then I'll vacate
21 it. But for now I'm going to do it.

22 **MS. LEWIS:** So the record -- so that the
23 record is clear --

24 **THE COURT:** Yes.

25 **MS. LEWIS:** -- you are -- you've refused

1 to recuse yourself --

2 **THE COURT:** That's correct.

3 **MS. LEWIS:** -- based on a motion that was
4 filed?

5 **THE COURT:** That's correct.

6 **MS. LEWIS:** And you're continuing to act
7 in spite of Judge Brown continuing on the case; is that
8 correct?

9 **THE COURT:** No, that's not correct.

10 **MS. LEWIS:** Okay.

11 **MS. PEREZ:** Excuse me?

12 **THE COURT:** Yes, ma'am.

13 **MS. PEREZ:** I would like to ask, so on
14 my -- when I filed for the protective order I put unborn
15 child. He was not born yet. I was trying to see if
16 there's a way I could put his name?

17 **THE COURT:** Well, okay, so if your baby is
18 born, you're going to do a first amended, okay? You
19 have to do a first amended TXO. All right.

20 **MS. LEWIS:** So legal advise.

21 **THE COURT:** No, ma'am. And I'm going to
22 ask you --

23 **MS. LEWIS:** I was talking to --

24 **THE COURT:** -- not to --

25 **MS. LEWIS:** I'm sorry. I was talking

1 to --

2 **THE COURT:** It's improper.

3 **MS. LEWIS:** Yes, your honor.

4 **THE COURT:** Attorney Lewis, it's improper.

5 **MS. LEWIS:** Yes, Your Honor.

6 **THE COURT:** You'll need to do a first
7 amended because you can't do an extension because your
8 20 days are up, okay? All right. You may go to
9 Ms. Kenisha and Ms. Kenisha will give you the paperwork
10 that you need for your first amended, okay? All right.

11 You-all are free to leave and I'm going to
12 let her stay so that she can finish up what she needs
13 to do.

14 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** Okay.

15 **THE COURT:** Thank y'all so much. Have a
16 blessed day.

17 **MS. UMOJA-JUSTICE:** All right. We're
18 excused, Your Honor?

19 **THE COURT:** Yes, ma'am.

20 **MS. LEWIS:** Thank you, Your Honor.

21 **MS. PEREZ:** Am I excused?

22 **THE COURT:** Ms. Kenisha.

23 **MS. PEREZ:** Okay. Thank you.

24 **THE COURT:** Uh-huh.

25 (Proceedings concluded.)

1 STATE OF TEXAS

2 COUNTY OF HARRIS

3 I, Ehdi Sepulveda, Official Court Reporter in and
4 for the 280th District Court of Harris, State of Texas,
5 do hereby certify that the above and foregoing contains
6 a true and correct transcription of all portions of
7 evidence and other proceedings requested in writing by
8 counsel for the parties to be included in this volume of
9 the Reporter's Record in the above-styled and numbered
10 cause, all of which occurred in open court or in
11 chambers and were reported by me.

12 I further certify that this Reporter's Record of
13 the proceedings truly and correctly reflects the
14 exhibits, if any, admitted, tendered in an offer of
15 proof or offered into evidence.

16 I further certify that the total cost for the
17 preparation of this Reporter's Record is \$210.00 and
18 was paid by Ms. Adjua R. Umoja-Justice.

19 WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND on the 9th day of June,
20 2026.

21 /s/Ehdi Sepulveda
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