

## LOCAL NEWS

# Robstown resident pleads guilty to voter fraud, barred from helping in future elections

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A Robstown woman has pleaded guilty to providing unlawful assistance to a voter related to the 2016 General Election cycle.

Rosita Flores pleaded guilty to the charge on June 12 in the San Patricio County Court-at-Law, according to the Texas Attorney General's Office. Unlawful assistance to a voter is a Class A Misdemeanor, and Flores was fined \$1,000, along with \$316 in court costs. Her one-year jail sentence was suspended in favor of probation for about 18 months, according to the court's order.

Prosecutors have said Flores obtained an elderly victim's mail-in ballot and used it to vote without the voter's direction during the 2016 general election.

She will also have to perform 60 hours of community service, and must spend 10 consecutive Saturdays in the San Patricio County Jail as a condition of her probation, beginning July 7. Flores was also ordered to not assist in any other elections.

Two other Robstown residents are still facing charges related to the 2016 General Election cycle.

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Cynthia Kay Gonzalez was indicted on four counts of election fraud stemming from the May 2016 Nueces County Democratic primary runoff election. Her charges include illegal voting, a second-degree felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Robert Gonzalez, who was on the 2016 Robstown Municipal Utility Board runoff election in 2016, was indicted on three counts of unlawfully divulging a vote, a third-degree felony. He

was charged with observing the secret ballot of another voter in a polling place and unlawfully divulging the person's vote.

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