



Rosemary Lehmborg ★ Travis County District Attorney

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September 8, 2016

Billy Mims, Texas Ranger
Texas Department of Public Safety
13730 Research Blvd.
Austin, TX 78750

Re: Sid Miller travel voucher investigation

Dear Ranger Mims,

We have complete our review of your final report on the investigation into trips taken by Agricultural Commissioner Sid Miller in early 2015 to Oklahoma and Mississippi that appear to have involved personal purposes. We have also reviewed the underlying records you obtained and the interviews you conducted during the investigation.

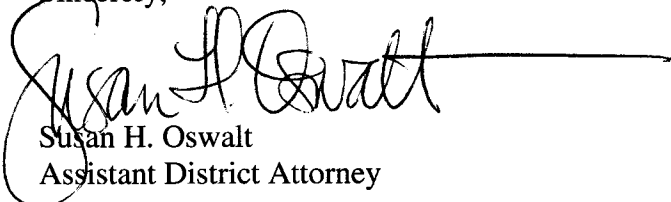
Although it is clear that Commissioner Miller used campaign and state funds to pay for the two trips, he has claimed that his personal interests in the trips were incidental to official travel to meet state officials. Once information about these trips was published by the Houston Chronicle, Commissioner Miller repaid everything except for one unused plane ticket valued at \$497.99. Upon request, Commissioner Miller has recently repaid the state for the final unused plane ticket.

Your investigation determined that an administrative assistant made the travel arrangements, and those arrangements were not made by Commissioner Miller directly. He also claims to have not understood how some expenditures were supposed to have been handled.

After reviewing your investigation, our office has determined that criminal intent would be difficult to prove in this case. Additionally, the total amount spent on the trips was relatively small, the state has been refunded all the money it expended on these trips, and the facts have been made known publicly so that Commissioner Miller is likely to be more careful in the future. Taking these factors into consideration, we have decided to close our file and not pursue criminal charges against Commissioner Miller on these allegations.

I would like to commend you on an excellent and thorough investigation. We appreciate all the time and energy you put into this. Thank you for working with us on this investigation.

Sincerely,


Susan H. Oswalt
Assistant District Attorney