

Date _____

HON. GRIFFIN BELL
U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON D..C. 20530

Dear Sir,

When El Paso county Sheriffs Deputy Sergio Guzman pulled the trigger to the shot gun that killed 17 year old Danny Vasquez on Jan..22, 1978 ten people said Guzman had fired deliberately. These ten people testified before a grand jury to that fact and all of them were at the scene of the crime. Yet, the grand jury refused to indict Guzman

After Guzman pulled the trigger, Danny did not die instantly. According to the autopsy, he was alive for at least thirty minutes. Dannys friend, Bobby Payan who was at the scene said Danny cried out several times, please take me to a hospital. That cry was ignored and, according to the Sheriffs Dept. they admit the deputies present order the ambulance attendants not to take Danny. The attendants (of the Trans-Pecos Ambulance Service) admit they did not examine the victim.

When Danny was shot down in the El Paso Lower Valley community of Moon City, he had no weapon in his hand or ill will in his heart. He had merely approached the deputy to inform him that the young man he had arrested for allegedly being involved in a fight, was innocent (which later proved to be the case). For his cooperation with the law and his concern for a friend Danny was verbally abused by the deputy and shot to death.

Since May 1977, at least eleven chicanos have wrongfully died at the hands of the police authorities. In the past two years, the number is more than thirty. Yet, there has been little or no punishment of police for these atrocities.

I ask that the Department of Justice prosecute Sergio Guzman and the El Paso County Sheriffs Dept. (whose Sheriff, Mike Sullivan is presently under indictment for corruption) to the full extent of the law. Unless this happens, the El Paso courts will continue to be courts of law and not of justice.

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

October 4, 1978

Estimado (a) Hermano (a)

The Danny Vasquez Justice Committee is again asking for your help and support.

To start we hope you can sign the enclosed petitions and send them to us or to Griffin Bell at the Justice Dept.

It has been almost 9 months since Danny Vasquez was murdered in cold blood by deputy Sergio Guzman and as of Oct. 4, 1978 he is still a free man getting paid.

Brief History

- Jan. 22, 1978 - 17 year old Danny Vasquez is murdered by Sergio Guzman with a shot gun blast to his chest.
- Jan. 25, 1978 - Parents of Danny send written demand to El Paso, District Attorney Steve Simmons asking for an investigation to be held. NO RESPONSE.
- Feb. 21, 1978 - Parents of Danny Vasquez send in other letter demanding that it be read and presented to grand jury also reminding Steve Simmons the request of special investigation. NO RESPONSE.
- March 8, 1978 - Sergio Guzman is no bill by El Paso County Grand Jury was called "Justicifiable Homicide"
- March 23, 1978 - Parents of Danny Vasquez Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Vasquez demands in a letter to Griffin Bell that a special federal investigation be held. NO RESPONSE.
- July 13, 1978 - Letter to President Jimmy Carter demanding that he call special investigation on the death of Danny Vasquez. NO RESPONSE.
- July 18, 1978 - Letters to the following people were sent asking for investigation.
 1. Governor - Dolph Brisco
 2. Attorney General - John Hill
 3. Warren Hewitle office of Human Rights
 4. Mr. Aragon Special Assistant to Carter
 5. To Senators and CongressmenNO ONE RESPONDED.

During all this time we held marches, had pickets, protested, filed suit and had fund raisers. We also started a letter campaign to Griffin Bell the U.S. Attorney General. We want to continue this letter campaign for as long as possible. So it is very important that you sign and send in the petitions also you can make copies of this petition and have your friends sign it. So please help us and support us. Publicize the case in your paper, talk to your class about it, your friends where you work, your church. If you need more information please feel free to write.

Danny Vasquez Justice Committee

"Despues que le dispararon, mi hijo dijo varias veces 'llevenme a un hospital' pero no le hicieron caso. Yo se que lo movieron pero no para atencion medica. Lo llevaron por mi casa pero solo escribieron la direccion y se fueron para tirar a Danny en el sitio de su crimen..."

-Ricardo Vasquez,
hablando de la
muerte de su hijo,
Danny

JUSTICIA PARA DANNY VASQUEZ

El 22 de Enero, 1978 un diputado del Alguasil asesino a Danny Vasquez, un joven de 17 años, con un tiro de escopeta. Diez testigos han dicho que el diputado disparo alrede. El mismo departamento del Alguasil admite que no le dio ninguna atencion medica a Danny aunque el joven todavia respiraba despues del tiro.

El 7 de Marzo el gran jurado investigando el incidente rehuso acusar a Guzman. Siendo que los gran jurados son simplemente titeres de los fiscales, esto quiere decir que el fiscal del distrito Steve Simmons quiere que este crimen no sea castigado.

Desde Mayo 1977 a Enero 1978, habido once (11) casos en que la policia asesina Chicanos en los Estados Unidos. En la mayoria de es-

tos casos los policias no han recibido castigo en el nivel local. Y solamente cuando el pueblo se une y organiza presion ha habido accion como en el caso de Joe Campos Torres.

Como es claro que no obtendremos justicia de las cortes locales, debemos pressionar otro tipo de acciones, como por ejemplo, castigo por parte del gobierno federal. Por favor ayude al Comite Pro Justicia para Danny Vasquez. Caulquier ayuda es buena.

DATOS SOBRE EL INCIDENTE

* Danny fue muerto temprano en la mañana del domingo por un tiro de escopeta disparado por el diputado Sergio Guzman. Guzman habia ido a Moon City a parar un pleito pero cuando llego, el pleito se habia acabado.

* Guzman levanto a un herido y luego arresto al joven Jose Zaragoza, creyendo que este habian estado en el pleito.

* Danny y otro amigo, Bobby Payan, fueron con Guzman para decirle que Jose no habia estado en el pleito (que era verdad). Pero Guzman les dijo "cayense y largense!"

* Cuando Danny quiso seguirle hablando, Guzman saco una escopeta y se la apunto. Danny la empujo a un lado y dijo "no me apuntes eso."

* Guzman volvio apuntarla y despues de esperar unos cuantos segundos, apreto el gatillo. Luego, apuntandola a los presentes dijo, "quien quiere mas de lo mismo."

* Cuando llego una ambulancia despues, los diputados del alguasil le ordenaron a los atendientes que no se llevaran a Danny aunque el joven aun respiraba.

* Diez testigos han dicho que Guzman disparo alrede. Guzman dice que fue "un accidente" pero los testigos de el ni estaban presentes en el incidente.

"Ya Basta!"

USTED PUEDE AYUDAR CON-

1. Una donacion al comite pro justicia para Danny Vasquez.
2. Atendiendo juntas e actividades del comite.
3. Distribuyendo informacion sobre el caso.
4. Mandando una carta de apoyo a la familia Vasquez.

"Si no paramos estos asesinatos ahora, mañana puede ser su propio hijo la victima- por esta razon busco justicia en la muerte de mi hijo."

-Ricardo Vasquez



COMITE PRO JUSTICIA
PARA DANNY VASQUEZ
P.O. Box 17111
El Paso, Texas 79917
(915) 544-5975

Los siguientes son victimas de asesinatos por la policia:

1. Joe Campos Torres, golpeado y hechado a un lago ahogarse por la policia de Houston, Tx. Mayo 6, 1977
2. Juan Veloz Zuniga, muerto a golpes por el Alguasil de Hutsbeth County, Mayo 18, 1977
3. James Hinojos, muerto a balazos en un parque de Denver, Colorado por la policia, Juli 10, 1977
4. Art Espinoza, muerto junto con James en Denver
5. Manuel Medina, balaseado doce veces por la policia en Seattle, Washington, Agosto 26, 1977
6. Bobby Fernandez, muerto a golpes por la policia en Pueblo, Colorado, Agosto 26, 1977
7. Tiburcio Santome, muerto a balazos por un diputado de Garden City, Texas, Noviembre 6, 1977
8. Andres Ramirez, muerto a golpes por la policia en Albuquerque, N.M. Noviembre 9, 1977
9. Juan Galaviz, muerto a balazos por la policia en Big Springs, TX. Diciembre 8, 1977
10. Larry Ortega Lozano, muerto a golpes por diputados del Alguasil en Odessa, Tx. Enero 22, 1978
11. Danny Vasquez, muerto por un tiro de escopeta por un diputado del Alguasil de El Paso, Tx. Enero 22, 1978

VIDAS DESPERDICIAS SIN RAZON,
¿DONDE ESTA LA JUSTICIA?

NO MAS AGRESIÓN!

"After they shot him, my son called out several times 'take me to a hospital' but they ignored him. I know they did move him but not for medical care. They took him by my house but only took down my address then left to dump Danny back at the scene of their crime..."

-Ricardo Vasquez,
talking about the
shooting of his son,
Danny

JUSTICE FOR DANNY VASQUEZ

On January 22, 1978 Danny Vasquez, a 17 year old Socorro High School student was killed by a shot gun blast by Sherrif's Deputy Sergio Guzman in Moon City. Ten witnesses say the deputy fired deliberately. The Sherrif's Dept. itself admits it gave Danny no medical attention even though he was still breathing after the shooting.

On March 7, the El Paso grand jury investigating the case refused to indite Guzman. Since grand juries are merely rubber stamps for prosecutors, this means that District Attorney Steve Simmons wants this crime to go unpunished.

From May 1977 to Jan. 1978, there have been 11 cases of police killing Chicanos in the U.S. In

the majority of these cases there has been no prosecution at the local level. And only when the people unite and organized has there been action as in the case of Joe Campos Torres.

Since it is clear that we will get no justice from the local courts, we must pressure other type of actions, such as federal prosecution. Please help the Danny Vasquez Justice Committe in any way you can.

FACTS ABOUT THE SHOOTING

* Danny was shot early Sunday morning by Deputy Sergio Guzman who had gone to Moon City to stop a fight at the Bufford Inn where a dance was going on. When he got there, the fight was over.

* Guzman picked up an injured man and then arrested a youth, Jose Zaragosa, because he thought he had been involved in the fight.

* Danny and aother friend, Bobby Payan, went over and told Guzman that Jose had not been involved in the fight (which was true). Guzman told them to "shut up and get out of here!"

*When Danny kept trying to talk to the Deputy, Guzman took out a shot gun and pointed it at Danny. Danny pushed it aside and said "don't point that thing at me."

* Guzman pointed the gun at Danny again, waited a few seconds and then pulled the trigger. Then he pointed it at those present and

said, "anyone want more of the same?"

* After the shooting an ambulance arrived but the Sherrif's deputies order the attendants not to take Danny even though he was still breathing. No one bothered to even examine him.

* Ten witnesses saw Guzman fire deliberately. Guzman says it was an "accident" but none of his witnesses was at the scene.

YOU CAN HELP BY-

1. Sending a donation to the committee for Justice for Danny Vasquez.
2. Going to meetings and activities of the comite.
3. Distributing information on the case.
4. Sending a letter of support to the Vasquez family.

"If we don't stop these murders now, tommorrow it may be your own son that will be killed; for this reason I seek justice in the death of sy son."

-Ricardo Vasquez



DANNY VASQUEZ
JUSTICE COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 17111
El Paso, Texas 79917
(915) 544-5975

The following is a list of Chicanos killed in recent months by police:

1. Joe Campos Torres, beaten and thrown in a lagoon to drown by the Houston, Tx. police, May 6, 1977.
2. Juan Veloz Zuniga, beaten to death by Hutspeth County Sherrif May 18, 1977.
3. James Hinojos, shot to death in a Denver, Colorado park by police.
4. Art Espinoza, shot to death along with James, July 10, 1977.
5. Manuel Medina, shot twelve times by Seattle, Washington cops on Aug. 26, 1977.
6. Bobby Fernandez, beaten to death by Pueblo, Colorado police on Aug. 26, 1977.
7. Tiburcio Santome, shot to death by a retired Garden City, Tx. Deputy, Nov. 6, 1977.
8. Andres Ramirez, beaten to death by Albuquerque, N.M. police on Nov. 9, 1977.
9. Juan Galaviz, shot to death by a Big Springs, Tex. police on Dec. 8, 1977.
10. Larry Ortega Lozano, beaten to death by Sherrif's deputies in Odessa, Tx. January 22, 1978.
11. Danny Vasquez, killed by a shot gun blast to the chest by an El Paso Sherrif's Deputy Sergio Guzman on January 22, 1978.

LIVES WASTED WITHOUT ANY REASON-
WHERE IS JUSTICE?

YA BASTA

To Hon. Griffin Bell

Our organization wishes to inform you that we have gone on record in supporting Mr & Mrs Ricardo Vozquez fight for justice in the murder of their son Darry Vozquez. ^{EL Paso, Tex.} Mr Darry Vozquez cold blooded murder at the hands of EL Paso Deputy Sheriff Sergio Guzman & the refusal of local authorities to ^{prosecute} ~~go~~ once again represents ^{to us} a blatant miscarriage of justice. ~~It is our position that federal intervention is necessary because of the refusal of local~~ ^{to us} ~~is necessary~~ & that your office launch ^{an} ~~investigation~~ ^{with the state} ~~investigation~~ ^{and} ~~into this matter.~~ ^{the prosecutor of} ~~the guilty officer + others involved.~~ ^{the} ~~matter~~ & others pending concerning the ~~the~~ death of Chicora's by "trigger happy" policemen as are resolved that to talk about

It is ^{also our opinion} imperative that this matter be
in closing we wish to state that

Until the issue of Mr Darry Vozquez is resolved along with the countless ^{murders} ~~other~~ involving ^{other} ~~the~~ death of Chicora's in the S.W. that the Chicora community in the U.S. will continue to view U.S. Justice as "just us". We await your reply on this urgent matter.

Respectably yours
H.B.