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The Travis County District Attorney's Office today released the following statement:

Amado Jose Abascal, III, a district judge for Maverick, Zavala and Dimmitt counties, today entered a plea of guilty before Travis County District Judge Julie Kocurek to tampering with a governmental record, a Class A misdemeanor. Abascal was sentenced to pay a \$4,000 fine and was ordered to pay \$15,000 in civil damages to the State of Texas for violations of Texas election laws.

Abascal was indicted by a Travis County Grand Jury in October 2005 for falsifying a political contribution report and in March 2007 for aggravated perjury relating to his testimony before the Grand Jury.

Today's plea agreement was reached when the State's material witnesses against Abascal became unavailable to testify because of pending federal charges.