

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:06-CV-2165
)	
BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS; KAREN)	JUDGE DAVID HITTNER
MCQUEEN, the COUNTY CLERK, in)	
her official capacity; the BRAZOS)	
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT;)	Plaintiff's Notice of Expiration
and RANDY SIMS, the COUNTY)	of Consent Decree
JUDGE, in his official capacity,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF EXPIRATION OF CONSENT DECREE

The United States files this Notice to inform the Court of the status of the Consent Decree in the above-captioned case.

On June 28, 2006, the United States simultaneously filed a Complaint and proposed Consent Decree against Defendants, Brazos County, Brazos County Clerk, Brazos County Judge, and the Brazos County Commissioners Court ("Defendants"). The Complaint alleged that Defendants had failed to comply with Sections 4(f)(4) and 208 of the Voting Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973aa-6 and 1973b(f)(4). On June 29, 2006, the Court entered the Consent Decree negotiated by the parties.

The United States has monitored the Defendants' compliance with the terms of the Consent Decree, and the United States has determined that Defendants are in substantial compliance with such terms. The parties have discussed the Defendants' future plans for

complying with applicable provisions of federal law and the Defendants have stated an intent to maintain the bilingual election program in the future. The parties are in agreement that further court oversight is not needed, and that the Consent Decree appropriately expired as scheduled on March 1, 2009. The Defendants have reviewed this Notice and do not object to its filing.

Date: April 14, 2009

For the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jared M. Slade, hereby certify that the foregoing Notice filed through the ECF system will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) and paper copies will be mailed by prepaid, First Class Mail, to those indicated as non-registered participants on April 14, 2009.

/s/ Jared M. Slade

JARED M. SLADE

Trial Attorney, Voting Section

United States Department of Justice