



JUDGMENT

Court of Appeals

First District of Texas

NO. 01-22-00122-CV

JOHN OR JANE DOE, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS; JOE ESPARZA, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS; AND KEN PAXTON, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS, Appellants

V.

TEXAS STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NAACP; COMMON CAUSE TEXAS; DANYAHEL NORRIS; HYUN JA NORMAN; FREDDY BLANCO; MARY FLOOD NUGENT; AND PRISCILLA BLOOMQUIST, Appellees

Appeal from the 189th District Court of Harris County (Tr. Ct. No. 2021-57207).

This case is an appeal from the appealable interlocutory order signed by the trial court on January 31, 2022. After submitting the case on the appellate record and the arguments properly raised by the parties, the Court holds that there was reversible error in the trial court's order with respect to appellees' claims against John or Jane Doe, in his Official Capacity as the Secretary of State of Texas. Accordingly, the Court **reverses** the trial court's order and **renders** judgment dismissing appellees' claims against the Secretary of State.

Further, because appellees no longer maintain their claims against Joe Esparza, in his official capacity as the Deputy Secretary of The State of Texas, and they concede on

appeal that their claims against Ken Paxton, in his official capacity as the Attorney General of Texas, should be dismissed, the Court **dismisses** appellees' claims against the Deputy Secretary of State and the Attorney General.

The Court **orders** that appellees, Texas State Conference of the NAACP; Common Cause Texas; Danyahel Norris; Hyun Ja Norman; Freddy Blanco; Mary Flood Nugent; and Priscilla Bloomquist, jointly and severally, pay all appellate costs.

The Court **orders** that this decision be certified below for observance.

Judgment rendered May 19, 2026.

Panel consists of Chief Justice Adams and Justices Gunn and Guiney. Opinion delivered by Chief Justice Adams.

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