

THE STATE OF TEXAS

**Civil No: 00004814**

**Criminal No: 00025924**

To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas--Greeting:

WHEREAS, on the **FEBRUARY 13, 2025 AT 9:00 AM**, in a certain prosecution pending in the County Court of Lavaca County, Texas, Cause No. **00025924**, wherein THE STATE OF TEXAS is plaintiff and **JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ** the said Defendant as principal, together with **CASHBOND** as sureties did enter into a **Bail Bond**, payable to the State of Texas in the penal sum **\$1,500.00**, **CONDITIONED**, That the said Defendant should make his personal appearance before said Court on the **FEBRUARY 13, 2025 AT 9:00 AM**, then and there to answer the State of Texas upon a charge by **Information**, duly presented in said Court, wherein the said Defendant is charged with the offense of **POSS MARIJ < 2OZ** and there remain from day to day and term to term until discharged by due course of law; and, whereas, on the **FEBRUARY 13, 2025 AT 9:00 AM**, before said Court, then in session, said cause was called for trial, and the said **JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ** wholly failed to appear and answer said accusation against him, and thereupon the **Bail Bond** of said **JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ** was declared forfeited by said Court, and it was ordered, adjudged and decreed by said Court that the State of Texas do have and recover of the said **JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ** as principal, the sum of **\$1,500.00** and of **CASHBOND** as sureties, the sum of **\$1,500.00** each, and it was ordered and adjudged that said judgment should be made final, in accordance with state law.

YOU ARE THEREFORE COMMANDED: that you summon the said **JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ**, principal, and the said **CASHBOND** as sureties as aforesaid, to be and appear by filing a written answer before the said County Court located at **412 N. Texana, Hallettsville, Lavaca County, Texas**, on or before Monday next after the expiration of twenty days from service hereof, then and there to show cause why said forfeiture should not be made final.

Plaintiff is represented by **JAMES REEVES** whose address is **PO Box 576, Hallettsville, TX, 77964**.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at **Hallettsville, Texas**, this **11th day of September, 2025**.



Attest: Barbara K. Steffek, County Clerk  
County Court, Lavaca County, Texas  
PO Box 326  
Hallettsville, TX 77964

By

*Christy Wilson*  
CHRISTY WILSON, DEPUTY CLERK

NOTICE

You have been sued for payment on the above referenced forfeited bond. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you.

CIVIL NO. 4814  
CRIMINAL NO. 25924

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE COUNTY COURT
VS.	§	OF
JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ	§	LAVACA COUNTY, TEXAS

**STATE'S MOTION FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF PROCESS**

COMES NOW The State of Texas, by and through its Lavaca County Attorney, and files this Motion for Substituted Service of Process pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 109 and respectfully requests that the Court authorize an alternative method of service on Defendant Gerado Ortiz. In support of this Motion, the State shows the Court as follows:

1. On June 16, 2024, in Criminal Cause No. 25924, Defendant did enter a cash bond, payable to Plaintiff, the State, in the sum of \$1,500.00, conditioned on the Defendant's personal appearance in court on February 13, 2025.
2. On February 13, 2025, Defendant was called before the Court but failed to appear to answer the charge against him.
3. As a result of Defendant's failure to appear, the Court declared the bond forfeited and ordered that the State recover the amount of \$1,500.00, subject to Defendant's right to show good cause for his nonappearance.
4. The State thereafter filed a motion to forfeit the Defendant's bail bond.
5. The State has attempted to serve Defendant on three (3) occasions at 312 Davidson Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995 (the "Property") by personal delivery, but service has not been successful despite the exercise of due diligence. A sworn affidavit from the process server detailing these attempts is attached as Exhibit A.
6. During one such attempt, the process server was informed by a peace officer with Yoakum Police Department that many individuals had recently moved out of the area due to immigration enforcement actions by ICE, resulting in relocation and abandonment of

several residences in the neighborhood.

7. Because personal service has not been successful and the State and the affiant have been unable to locate the whereabouts of Defendant, the State requests that the Court authorize substituted service by publication on the website of Lavaca County, Texas and The Office of Court Administration's Citation by Publication and Court Notices Website.
8. Pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 109, the State requests that the Court order the Clerk to issue citation for service by publication by commanding Defendant to appear and answer at or before 10:00 a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of citation issuance. Given the sworn statements in the process server's affidavit, the possibility exists that Defendant no longer resides at the Property and that he may not, after due diligence, be located or found for personal service.
9. The process server's affidavit, attached as Exhibit A, is sufficient proof of due diligence in attempting to locate and serve Defendant. The affidavit, accordingly, satisfies the requirements for citation by publication under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 109.
10. For these reasons, the State respectfully requests that the Court grant this Motion and authorize substituted service of process on Defendant in the manner described above, direct the Clerk to issue a citation for service by publication, and for such other and further relief to which the State may be justly entitled.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/Forrest T. Kroschel

ATTORNEY FOR THE STATE

FORREST KROSCHER, 24092649

# EXHIBIT A

STATE OF TEXAS

LAVACA COUNTY

## AFFIDAVIT

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Rachael Barber, who, being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

My name is Rachael Barber, and I work as the investigator for the Lavaca County Attorney's Office. I am of sound mind, capable of making this affidavit and personally acquainted with the facts herein stated:

On Wednesday, March 12, 2025, I was asked to serve a citation on Jesus Imanol Esquivel Lopez for a judgement nisi bond forfeiture. I attempted to serve Lopez at his last known residence of 312 Davidson St. Yoakum, TX, 77995 the same day at 3:40 PM with Yoakum PD Officer Brigs. We were unable to make contact at the residence. Officer Brigs informed me that many people in the neighborhood had been deported by ICE or had left the area because of them.

On Monday, March 24, 2025, at 2:45 PM I returned to the residence of 312 Davidson St. Yoakum, TX. I knocked on the door but was unable to get anyone to answer. I then located a dog on the porch with a collar and tag. I found the tag to have the address of 312 Davidson St. and a phone number of 361-557-5295. I spoke with a female who answered the number. She only spoke Spanish but was able to locate a translator. The translator spoke in broken English but was able to tell me the owner of the dog and resident of 312 Davidson St. did not know a Jesus Lopez.

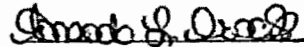
On Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 8:21 AM I returned to the residence of 312 Davidson St. Yoakum, TX. I knocked again on the door, but no one answered. I then contacted the phone number listed on the bond for Jesus Lopez at 9:00 AM, 361235-9086. A male answered the phone who stated I had the wrong number and there was no one by the name of Jesus Lopez that used the number anymore.

After due diligence in attempting to locate Jesus Imanol Esquivel Lopez I did not take further action.



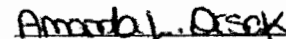
Affiant

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

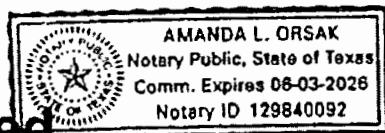


Notary Public, State of Texas

Printed Name of Notary:




My Commission Expires: 6/3/2026



Filed

3:48

MAR 28 2025

BARBARA K. STEFFEK, CLERK  
COUNTY COURT, LAVACA CO., TX  
By  Deputy

CIVIL NO. 4814  
CRIMINAL NO. 25924

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE COUNTY COURT
VS.	§	OF
JESUS IMANOL ESQUIVEL LOPEZ	§	LAVACA COUNTY, TEXAS

**ORDER GRANTING SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF PROCESS**

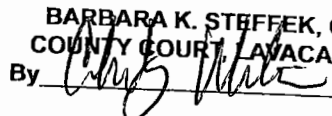
After considering The State of Texas's Motion for Substituted Service and the supporting sworn statement, the Court finds that the State's attempts to serve Defendant, Jesus Imanol Esquivel Lopez, have been unsuccessful despite the State's due diligence and that the substituted service requested in the State's motion will be reasonably effective to give Defendant notice of the suit.

The Court therefore **GRANTS** the motion and authorizes substituted service by publication on the website of Lavaca County, Texas and The Office of Court Administration's Citation by Publication and Court Notices Website.

Signed the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

  
JUDGE PRESIDING

**Filed**  
917  
SEP 11 2025

BARBARA K. STEFFEK, CLERK  
COUNTY COURT, LAVACA CO., TX  
By  Deputy