

**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials: Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

**WARNING: Concerning Lawful Administration of Trust**

From: Lane Lee Bowers©, *The Living American Man, In Propria Persona, Sui Juris*, – Trustee,

**For:** Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)

**On Behalf and Benefit of:** Sundual Reparations Irrevocable Trust (SRIT)

**RE: Trust Administration – Prohibition On Reprisal For Protected Activity**

## 1. PRIVATE TRUST CAPACITY

All acts referenced in the accompanying *Petition to Answer Legal – Federal Question* are performed in my exclusive capacity as Trustee **For: Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT) On Behalf and Benefit of:** Sundual Reparations Irrevocable Trust (SRIT)—acting under trust law, not in any personal or commercial capacity. Trustees acting within their fiduciary role are entitled to near-absolute immunity from suit for official acts (**Barton v. Bar**, 104 U.S. 126, 128–29 (1881); **In re Cir. City Stores**, 557 B.R. 443, 447 (E.D. Va. 2016)).

## 2. CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS

- **First Amendment:** The right to petition governmental bodies is fundamental and protected—even if issues concern private trusts (**Right to Petition Clause; Duryea v. Guarnieri**, 143 S. Ct. 1555 (2023)).
- **Fifth Amendment:** Deprivation of property or rights without due process is unlawful and actionable.
- **Eighth Amendment:** Prosecution or punitive response for lawful trust activities is constitutionally barred.
- **Ninth & Tenth Amendments:** Reserve private rights and non-delegated powers to the sovereign people.

## 3. CIVIL RIGHTS STATUTES

Any retaliatory act or wrongful interference by a public official violates federal law and can give rise to civil action:

- **42 U.S.C. § 1983** – liability for persons acting under color of law who deprive individuals of constitutional rights.
- **42 U.S.C. §§ 1985–86** – allows claims for conspiracy to interfere with rights.



*Qui molitur insidias in patriam, id facit quod insanus nauta perforans navem in qua vehitur.*

He who betrays his country, is like the insane sailor who bores a hole in the ship which carries him.

Page 1 of 2

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**ATTACHMENT A**

**LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR TRUSTEE IMMUNITY AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS AGAINST RETALIATION**

**III. CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT AGAINST PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

**8. 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985, and 1986**

- o § 1983: Permits civil suits against government actors for deprivation of constitutional rights under color of law.
- o § 1985: Prohibits conspiracy to interfere with civil rights (including retaliation against trustees exercising lawful duties).
- o § 1986: Imposes liability on officials who knew of such conspiracies and failed to prevent them.

**IV. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING CASE LAW**

**9. Nieves v. Bartlett, 587 U.S. 1 (2019):**

- o A claim for retaliatory arrest can proceed even where probable cause exists, provided there is evidence of retaliatory motive.

**10. Mt. Healthy City Board of Ed. v. Doyle, 429 U.S. 274 (1977):**

- Mixed motive doctrine: If part of the reason for a government actor's behavior is retaliation against lawful conduct, it is unlawful even if other motives exist.

Execution Date: **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, on the *Land and Soil* of the Great **Republic of Texas**.

Sincerely and Honorably, Without Recourse,  
*- The Living Sentient Man, In Propria Persona, Sui Juris,*  
*All Rights Reserved, nunc pro tunc ab initio,*

By: 

L.S.

Lane Lee Bowers®, Trustee

**FOR: Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)**

Served via USPS Certified Mail to:

Scurry County Judge, **Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr., 9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97**

Scurry County Attorney, **Michael W. Hartman, 9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03**

**Stamp Declaration:** Affixed United States Postal Stamp, canceled by Wet-Ink Autograph (lower-right corner), affirms this instrument as a private commercial declaration under UPU treaty protocols, Law Merchant, and American Common Law. Cancellation from lower-left to upper-right confirms bonding, commercial liability assumption, and prepaid lawful postal duty.

*All Rights Explicitly Reserved in Perpetuity ~ Without Prejudice.*

By: Lane Lee Bowers®, *In Propria Persona, Sui Juris*, Trustee – (SBIT)



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**ATTACHMENT A**

**LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR TRUSTEE IMMUNITY AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS AGAINST RETALIATION**

**I. CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY – PROTECTION AGAINST GOVERNMENT RETALIATION**

**1. First Amendment – Petition Clause**

- *Borough of Duryea v. Guarnieri*, 564 U.S. 379 (2011): Protects the right to petition government for redress of grievances, including by public employees and fiduciaries.
- *Heffernan v. City of Paterson*, 578 U.S. 712 (2016): Retaliation against an individual for perceived engagement in protected activity is actionable.
- *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968): Government cannot retaliate against individuals for speech on matters of public concern.

**2. Fifth Amendment – Due Process Clause**

- Prohibits deprivation of liberty or property without due process of law. Any adverse action based on lawful trust administration constitutes a deprivation of property (obligations administered) and liberty (trustee functions) without process.

**3. Eighth Amendment – Excessive Fines and Punishment**

- *Austin v. United States*, 509 U.S. 602 (1993): Prohibits punitive state action that is grossly disproportionate and nonjudicially imposed.

**4. Ninth & Tenth Amendments**

- Protect residual rights of the People and trust instruments not specifically delegated to federal or state governments, reinforcing private sovereignty over trust administration.

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**II. FIDUCIARY PROTECTION AND TRUSTEE IMMUNITY**

**5. Barton v. Bar**, 104 U.S. 126 (1881):

- A trustee appointed under judicial authority is immune from suit unless leave of court is granted. This case defines the modern “Barton Doctrine,” shielding fiduciaries from unauthorized legal attack.

**6. In re Circuit City Stores**, 557 B.R. 443 (E.D. Va. 2016):

- Applied Barton to trust-based asset management. Liquidating trust administrators are immune unless directly breaching fiduciary duty.

**7. Butz v. Economou**, 438 U.S. 478 (1978):

- Federal officials acting in a quasi-judicial role (such as fiduciaries or private trust officers engaging public agencies) are immune from civil suits unless clearly acting outside legal authority.



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**PETITION TO ANSWER LEGAL – FEDERAL QUESTION**

Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)

Petitioner

v.

Scurry County Judge, **Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.**,

Respondent

**RE: OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC RECORDS ACCESS**

You are hereby **NOTICED** that your direct participation in obstructing lawful recordation of My *Perfected Claim of Lien/Affidavit of Obligation* constitutes an unlawful, unauthorized ‘legal’ determination as to its validity—an act beyond *Public Servant Fiduciary TRUSTEE* authority, outside lawfulness provided under *trust, commercial, or administrative law*, and **required** to answer the following, for a *Permanent Public Record*.

**QUESTION PRESENTED:**

Are you a public servant?

**DEMAND FOR RESPONSE:**

Petitioner requires an answer within twenty-one (21) calendar days supported by facts and conclusions of law.

**CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the foregoing is *true, correct, and complete*, and was noticed to all parties by electronic mail as agreed upon. Executed before and witnessed in the presence of God, under penalty of perjury under the laws of **the united States of America and Republic of Texas**.

Execution Date: **June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025**, on the *Land and Soil* of the Great **Republic of Texas**.

Sincerely and Honorably, Without Recourse,  
*The Living Sentient Man, In Propria Persona, Sui Juris,*  
*All Rights Reserved, nunc pro tunc ab initio,*

By: 🇺🇸

L.S.

Lane Lee Bowers®, Trustee

**FOR: Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)**

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*All Rights Explicitly Reserved in Perpetuity ~ Without Prejudice.*

By: Lane Lee Bowers®, *In Propria Persona, Sui Juris*, Trustee – (SBIT)



**USPS Certified Mail No.: 9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97**

*Necessitas inducit privilegium quoad jura privata. Necessity gives a preference with regard to private rights.*

Page 1 of 1

**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both Scurry County Officials:  
**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

**Authored:** June 30, 2025,

**TRUSTEE:** Lane Lee Bowers©  
**OFFICE:** c/o 2511 26th Street - Snyder, Scurry County, Republic of Texas,  
without the United States [Zip Code Exempt DMM 122.32],  
**JURISDICTION:** Land and Soil of the Republic of Texas,  
*In Propria Persona, Sui Juris,*  
**RESERVATIONS:** Reserving All Rights Explicitly in Perpetuity - Without Prejudice,

I, Lane Lee Bowers©, Trustee of Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT), do hereby certify under full liability and penalty of perjury, under the laws of the Republic of Texas and applicable provisions of the united States of America, that the following private presentments, titled:

**“NOTICE** of TRUSTEE Authority, *FEDERAL QUESTION PETITION*, and *Anti-Retaliation Legal Shield*”

A (3) three document Presentment consisting of the following:

- PETITION TO ANSWER LEGAL – FEDERAL QUESTION**
- ATTACHMENT A - Legal Authority for Trustee Immunity and Constitutional Protections Against Retaliation**
- WARNING - Concerning Lawful Administration of Trust**

were deposited into the custody of the United States Postal Service on the **30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025**, for delivery via Certified Mail, postage prepaid, to the following parties:

**1. Scurry County Judge**

**ATTN: Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.**

1806 25th St., Snyder, Texas 79549, USPS Certified Mail No. **9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97**

**2. Scurry County Attorney**

**ATTN: Michael W. Hartman**

1806 25th St., Snyder, Texas 79549, USPS Certified Mail No. **9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03**

This presentment is a lawful **NOTICE** executed by *Private Bonded Conveyance* for the purpose of **protecting** the administration of trust business, **asserting** constitutional guarantees, and **preserving due process** under federal and state jurisdiction. Originals retained in administrative custody.

Execution Date: **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, on the Land and Soil of the Great Republic of Texas.

Sincerely and Honorably, Without Recourse,  
The Living Sentient Man, *In Propria Persona, Sui Juris,*  
*All Rights Reserved, nunc pro tunc ab initio,*

By:  L.S.  
Lane Lee Bowers©, Trustee

**FOR: Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)**

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By: Lane Lee Bowers©, *In Propria Persona, Sui Juris*, Trustee – (SBIT)



**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials: Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

**WARNING: Concerning Lawful Administration of Trust**

**4. OFFICIAL NOTICE TO PUBLIC ACTORS**

You are hereby placed on formal **NOTICE** that any reprisal, harassment, or legal process undertaken in response to *My Trust-Authorized Petition* may be construed as:


1. *A Retaliatory act under the Petition Clause;*
2. *An Unlawful Deprivation of rights or property;*
3. *A Color-of-Law Violation subject to personal liability under 42 U.S.C. § 1983;*
4. *An Abuse of office or fiduciary breach.*

**5. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS AND REMEDIES**

**All Rights**—including seeking *injunctive relief, civil damages, removal proceedings, official complaints, or federal civil rights action*—are fully reserved and shall be pursued to the maximum extent allowed by law.

Executed this **30<sup>th</sup> Day of June 2025**, on the *Land and Soil* of the **Republic of Texas**.

Sincerely and Honorably, Without Recourse,  
*The Living Sentient Man, In Propria Persona, Sui Juris,*  
*All Rights Reserved, nunc pro tunc ab initio,*

By:  L.S.  
Lane Lee Bowers©, Trustee  
**FOR: Sojourn Bequest Irrevocable Trust (SBIT)**

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Scurry County Judge, **Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr., 9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97**  
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By: Lane Lee Bowers©, *In Propria Persona, Sui Juris*, Trustee – (SBIT)

*Qui molitur insidias in patriam, id facit quod insanus nauta perforans navem in qua vehitur.*  
He who betrays his country, is like the insane sailor who bores a hole in the ship which carries him.



**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials:**  
**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

The results of said **NOTICE** was as follows:

Postage PAID Receipt



*Neither Public Servant* provided lawful recognition of said **NOTICE** nor duty bound responds according to their Public Office, neither within or at all in the time given to perform such duty in response to the following Federal Question;

**“Are you a public servant?”**

*Remainder of evidence and Proof of Service on the following pages.*

**POSTAL SERVICE.**  
SNYDER  
1701 24TH ST  
SNYDER, TX 79549-9998  
www.usps.com

06/30/2025 12:15 PM

TRACKING NUMBERS  
9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03  
9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97

TRACK STATUS OF ITEMS WITH THIS CODE  
(UP TO 25 ITEMS)

TRACK STATUS BY TEXT MESSAGE  
Send tracking number to 28777 (2USPS)  
Standard message and data rates may apply

TRACK STATUS ONLINE  
Visit <https://www.usps.com/tracking>  
Text and e-mail alerts available

PURCHASE DETAILS

Product	Qty	Unit Price	Price
First-Class Mail® Large Envelope Snyder, TX 79549 Weight: 0 lb 1.80 oz Estimated Delivery Date Sat 07/05/2025	1		\$1.77
Certified Mail® Tracking #: 9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03			\$4.85
Return Receipt Tracking #: 9590 9402 9306 4295 0670 92			\$4.10
Affixed Postage Affixed Amount: \$10.72			-\$10.72
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>
First-Class Mail® Large Envelope Snyder, TX 79549 Weight: 0 lb 1.80 oz Estimated Delivery Date Sat 07/05/2025	1		\$1.77
Certified Mail® Tracking #: 9589 0710 5270 2118 2207 97			\$4.85
Return Receipt Tracking #: 9590 9402 9306 4295 0670 85			\$4.10
Affixed Postage Affixed Amount: \$10.72			-\$10.72
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

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**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

**FACT is Scurry County District Attorney; Hartman** or his office staff signed the  
**USPS PS Form 3811 (Green card) designated for Certified Mail Parcel No.**  
**9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03** as evidenced herein.

9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03

U.S. Postal Service™ CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT Domestic Mail Only	
For delivery information, visit our website at <a href="http://www.usps.com">www.usps.com</a> ®.	
Snyder, TX 79549	
OFFICIAL USE	
Certified Mail Fee	\$4.85
Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)	\$4.10
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy)	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic)	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$0.00
Postage	\$1.77
<b>Total Postage and Fees</b>	<b>\$10.72</b>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;">             SNYDE0549              JUN 30 2025              79549              06/30/2025              Postmark Here 2025           </div>	
Sent To <i>Scurry County Attorney, Michael W. Hartman</i> Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No. <i>1806 25th St.</i> City, State, ZIP+4® <i>Snyder, TX 79549</i>	
PS Form 3800, January 2023 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions	

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> </ul>	A. Signature <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addressee <i>Nanci Robertson</i>
1. Article Addressed to: <i>Scurry County Attorney            Michael W. Hartman            1806 25th St,            Snyder, TX. 79549</i>	B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery
2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) <b>9589 0710 5270 2118 2208 03</b>	D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Service Type <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail® <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail Express® <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™ <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation™ <input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery
PS Form 3811, July 2020 PSN 7530-02-000-9053 Domestic Return Receipt	

**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials:**  
**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

Tracking Number:


**9589071052702118220803**

 Copy  Add to Informed Delivery

### Latest Update

Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 11:20 am on July 1, 2025 in SNYDER, TX 79549.

Get More Out of USPS Tracking:

 USPS Tracking Plus®

- Delivered**  
**Delivered, Left with Individual**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 11:20 am
- Out for Delivery**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 8:21 am
- Arrived at Post Office**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 8:10 am
- Arrived at USPS Facility**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
June 30, 2025, 12:30 pm
- USPS in possession of item**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
June 30, 2025, 12:11 pm
- [Hide Tracking History](#)



**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials:**  
**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

Tracking Number:  
**9589071052702118220797**

Copy Add to Informed Delivery

**Latest Update**

Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 6:58 pm on July 21, 2025 in SNYDER, TX 79549.

Get More Out of USPS Tracking:  
 USPS Tracking Plus®

**Delivered**  
Delivered, Left with Individual  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 21, 2025, 6:58 pm

**Out for Delivery**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 21, 2025, 8:34 am

**Arrived at Post Office**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 21, 2025, 8:23 am

**In Transit to Next Facility**  
July 20, 2025

**Departed USPS Regional Facility**  
LUBBOCK TX DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
July 16, 2025, 8:01 pm

**Arrived at USPS Regional Facility**  
LUBBOCK TX DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
July 16, 2025, 9:33 am

**Departed USPS Regional Facility**  
OKLAHOMA CITY OK DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
July 11, 2025, 7:56 am

**Arrived at USPS Regional Facility**  
OKLAHOMA CITY OK DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
July 10, 2025, 12:48 pm

**Refused**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 3, 2025, 1:45 pm

**Refused**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 2, 2025, 11:05 am

**No Access to Delivery Location**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 11:23 am

**Out for Delivery**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 8:21 am

**Arrived at Post Office**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
July 1, 2025, 8:10 am

**Arrived at USPS Facility**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
June 30, 2025, 12:30 pm

**USPS in possession of item**  
SNYDER, TX 79549  
June 30, 2025, 12:14 pm

**Refused NOT  
Once - But 2 Times**

Hide Tracking History

**Federal Question to Hicks and Hartman:** Documents sent to both **Scurry County Officials:**  
**Judge, Daniel Raymond Hicks Jr.** and **District Attorney, Michael W. Hartman.**

**Verification Under 28 U.S.C. § 1746**

I, Lane Lee Bowers, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this \_\_\_\_ Day of April 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lane Lee Bowers, Plaintiff, Pro Se  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF TEXAS       §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS   §

Subscribed and sworn before me on this \_\_\_\_ Day of April 2026, by **Lane Lee Bowers**, who is personally known to me or who has produced satisfactory evidence of identity.

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

(Seal)

---

Notary Public, State of Texas