

## **Chronology of Events Leading to the Removal of Texas State Director Joey Cardenas III**

**June 6, 2010** – Councils in Houston submitted a Resolution to go against CEP (a private company that contracts with Houston Independent School District) that have the Alternative Schools in Houston and house all dysfunctional and disciplinary problem kids in Houston. At the Texas State Convention in Austin, Texas, this Resolution passes and is adopted by the Texas General Assembly.

**June 10, 2010** Baldomero Garza and Agustine Pineda present themselves at a HISD Board meeting as LULAC Members of Council 60 and tell HISD that LULAC supports CEP, specifically Council 60 and should be considered for renewal of their Contract. The District Director, Herlinda Garcia is present at this Board meeting and is witness to what was said.

**July 24, 2010** District VIII appoints a Disciplinary Committee to investigate the Actions of Baldomero Garza and Agustine Pineda. The Committee discovers a Video Tape of the HISD meeting and purchase/obtains a copy of the video where the 2 individuals are addressing the HISD Board in favor of CEP and against the Resolution duly passed by the Texas General Assembly.

**September 18, 2010** The State Board meets in San Angelo, Texas. Under Good and Welfare of the League, Mr. Pineda with Council 4967 (now, no longer with Council 60) asks the Texas State Board for reinstatement of District 18 and allow them to separate from District 8. State Director Joey Cardenas asked Herlinda Garcia what the status is on this recommendation. Ms. Garcia responded that this is the first she hears of it and that she did receive an e-mail from Baldomero Garza advising her of what they wanted to do. The State Director at this point refers Mr. Pineda back to District VIII so the District could have a discussion on the matter. Herlinda then informed the board that the next District VIII meeting was scheduled for October 23, 2010 and that she would put this issue on the Agenda. Mr. Cardenas also highly encouraged that any divisions to take place of any district should occur if both sides are in agreement. He also reiterated that Resolutions passed at the District and State Assemblies MUST be upheld and no members shall defer from Passed Resolutions.

**October 2, 2010** Sylvia Gonzales, National Vice President for the Southwest, makes a motion at the National Board Meeting in Washington DC to reinstate District 18 in Houston because she or any of the members are not allowed to address any issues in Houston unless they go through Mary Ramos first. Sylvia's motion was seconded and Linda Chavez, Deputy State Director of Texas was sitting in the meeting for Joey Cardenas, argued the facts that were presented by Sylvia and Rick Dovalina, Past National President also questioned Sylvia Gonzales. But motion passed regardless of the objections of Texas and the Past National President.

**December 11, 2010** State Board Meeting was held in McAllen, Texas. Marcelo Tafoya Chairman of State LULAC redistricting, presented the re-districting map of Texas LULAC. Discussion was held and Mr. Tafoya motions to accept the Texas Map as presented, seconded by Cynthia Valadez-Mata motion was passed. \*Note the map did not include District 18.

**From February 25, meeting Minutes.**

Motion by Herlinda Garcia that the State Treasure, Elia Mendoza sends a letter to councils sending State Dues for District XVIII acknowledging that District XVIII is a non-existing District in Texas and would request that they submit their dues through District VIII. Second by Linda Chavez. Motion passed.

**Old Business: Excerpts from Minutes of Meeting of February 25, 2011**

District VIII held its District meeting on January 22, 2011 and it was reviewed that two individuals Baldomero Garza and Augustine Pineda spoke at HISD School Board meeting in favor of CEP contract with the school district as LULAC members. Despite the known fact that District and State Resolutions had been approved and passed that LULAC was not supporting the renewal contracts of CEP. There has been no official reprimand.

Motion made by Bea Martinez that a letter be sent to HISD explaining the Violation of LULAC Constitution and false testimony given at HISD Board meeting and that Baldomero Garza and Augustine Pineda re-tract their statements within 30 days of receipt of said letter. If not complied then these members would be placed as members Not in good Standing in the State of Texas. Second by Totsy Armadillo. Motion passed (5 Nays)

Motion by Herlinda Garcia to have letter sent to National LULAC office regarding false testimony and requests that Sylvia Gonzalez retract her statements regarding the formation of District 18 within 30 days of receipt of said letter. If not complied then this member would be placed as member as Not in good Standing in the State of Texas. Second by Ruben Ramirez. Motion passed.

Motion by Elia Mendoza to split San Antonio into three Districts second by Cynthia Valadez-Mata. Motion Passed. Council letters requesting split were turned in to State Director. Per State Director Joey Cardenas, Marcelo Tafoya is to contact District XV Director, Gabe Rosales of San Antonio to confirm that the District approves of creating three new districts. If confirmed yes State gives approval to move forward, If not confirmed then State Board approves the three new districts.

So as everyone can see the Board approved the formation of additional Districts in San Antonio in **February 25, 2011.**

**April 30, 2011** District 15 held its District Convention and at that convention, Past President Rosa Rosales makes a motion not to allow a split in San Antonio and that District 15 should not be split, her motion was seconded and the motion passed. By this action, the Councils wanting to split from District 15 were actually denied and therefore gave the right to these Councils to split and have their own District.

**Then we go into the Texas State Convention in June 2-5 2011 in Killeen, Texas.** At registration of the State Convention, about 6-8 members of District 18 came to register as delegates of District 18, a district still not recognized by the State. They were allowed to register and were told they could register as District 8 not District 18. They said absolutely not they were going to register as District 18. Ok. At no time did Joey Cardenas III come to the Registration and deny them registration, as a matter of fact the State Treasurer, Elia Mendoza was the one that denied them registration at the convention as District 18 and she signed their registration form as denied.

At no time during this convention did Baldomero Garza, Augustine Pineda and Sylvia Gonzales appeal any actions taken by the State Executive Board to the Texas General Assembly. There were no attempts made by anyone of them to the General Assembly which is the highest level of Texas LULAC.

After this Killeen Convention, the State Board met immediately following the convention as required by the LULAC Constitution. All the board was present including the National President Margaret Moran, National Treasurer Roger Rocha, who is also the Immediate Past State Director and a part of the State Executive Committee of Texas. Also present was Luis Vera the General Council for the National Office. A discussion was held on Texas LULAC signing on with MALDEF. The State Board was hesitant to sign on with MALDEF because Joey Cardenas, the State Director reported that there were certain things we wanted that MALDEF did not want to agree to. The Board voted to allow Joey to go and negotiate with MALDEF in good faith to ask for everything we wanted. Neither Margaret Moran, nor Roger Rocha, nor Luis Vera objected to our State Director Joey Cardenas to go negotiate with MALDEF. The negotiation meeting was done the following week after the convention. MALDEF gave us everything we asked for with the exception of allowing Luis Vera to co-counsel the re-districting case with MALDEF.

It is alleged Luis Vera does not have mal-practice insurance and therefore cannot sit in with MALDEF as co-counsel. It is also alleged that Luis Vera cannot obtain malpractice insurance due to all the grievances and complaints filed against him with the State Bar of Texas. It is also alleged that Luis Vera had some serious charges against him with the State Bar of Texas. Also during all of this it was discovered that George Korbel who was going to be Luis Vera's Co-Counsel had let his attorney's license lapse and he was not licensed to practice law in any state. So Joey Cardenas sent out an e-mail to his state board asking them what should he do and everyone with the exception of 3 or 4 voted that Joey should sign on with MALDEF. Signing on with MALDEF meant Texas LULAC did not have to come up with any up front money. Luis Vera and team had requested approximately \$400,000 in legal fees from the Texas LULAC State Board.

AND THIS LADIES AND GENTLEMEN IS THE REST OF THE STORY.