

Joint Statement of the Cameron County District Attorney and the Legal Team for Melissa Lucio

“On April 25, 2022, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals (CCA) issued a stay of execution for Melissa Lucio. The CCA ordered the 138th Judicial District Court of Cameron County to consider new evidence of Melissa’s innocence in the death of her daughter, Mariah Alvarez, along with other claims regarding the fairness and reliability of her conviction. Following the CCA’s remand and in response to the Court’s directive, the Cameron County District Attorney’s Office undertook further review of Melissa’s case.”

“On January 11, 2023, the parties submitted Agreed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law to the trial court. This joint filing acknowledges that Melissa’s legal team did not have access to information favorable to her defense at the time of trial, thereby entitling her to habeas corpus relief from her conviction and sentence.”

“The Agreed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are under review by the trial court. Under Texas procedure the trial court must make a recommendation to the CCA which is the only court that can vacate a conviction. We are hopeful that Melissa’s case will be resolved.”

-- *Cameron County District Attorney Luis Saenz*
-- *Vanessa Potkin, Innocence Project, Attorney for Melissa Lucio*
-- *April 5, 2024*

Agreed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on Applicant’s First Subsequent Application for a Writ of Habeas Corpus can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/jhjh7a5v>