

Thursday, March 10, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Family of Man Killed by Police Files Civil Liberties Suit

Willacy County, Texas

On March 9, 2022, the daughters of John Ray Zamora filed suit against the City of Lyford and Willacy County following his death in police custody.

The daughters claim Mr. Zamora was at his mother's house when Lyford police responded to a disturbance call. The Lyford police officer requested help from Willacy County Sheriff's Department. Three Willacy County Sheriff's deputies attempted to arrest Mr. Zamora for public intoxication at Mr. Zamora's mother's house.

The police subdued Mr. Zamora. Mr. Zamora called to his mother for help. His mother attempted to film the confrontation; however, she had her cellphone confiscated.

Mr. Zamora was taken to Willacy County Jail where he requested medical assistance. Medical assistance was denied. After being unresponsive, Mr. Zamora was taken to Valley Baptist Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Mr. Zamora was 33 years old.

Mr. Zamora's four minor daughters are now suing the city, police department, county, and sheriff's department. In addition, the daughters have sued Sheriff Joe Salazar for enacting policies that made this incident inevitable. The Texas Rangers have begun investigating the incident.

The four minor daughters hope to hold the police accountable for taking their father's life. Their attorney, Israel Perez, stated, "There are rare circumstances that warrant the extreme punishment of the death penalty. When the police acted the way they did, they decided to be the judge, jury, and executioner in swiftly carrying out the death penalty against John Ray Zamora."

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